Entertainment

for the cultured queer & elite

HAVE YOU GOT THE SCOOP? Share it with the rest of the gay community! The Empty Closet is always looking for information regarding events and social activities. If you know something, send it to us! Submissions are due by the 15th of each month at: The Empty Closet, 179 Atlantic Ave., Rochester, NY 14607-1255. Or call 244-9030.

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DECEMBER 1998 SECTION B

Coming up...

Two Chorus members at a concert, Christmas Past.

Men's, Women's Choruses to perform annual holiday concerts

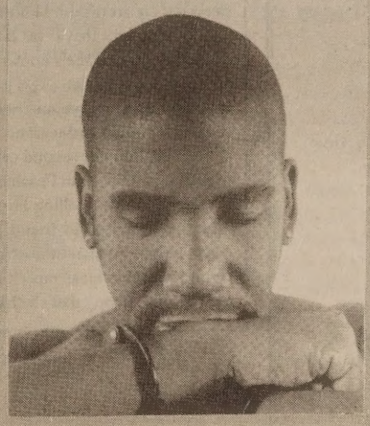
The Rochester Gay Men's Chorus will present their annual Christmas concert, now a Rochester gay community tradition, on Dec. 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St.

The concert, titled "Holiday Memories: a Concert for Sharing," will feature the personal stories of chorus members, combined with musical selections ranging from Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" to the Rochettes' spin on "The Waltz of the Flowers."

Tickets are available from Ticketmaster, Ticket Express and from Chorus members. For information call the Chorusline at 423-0650. The Chorus will have their new CD for sale.

The Rochester Women's Community Chorus will perform their annual holiday concert, "Singing in the Season," on Dec. 5 at 8p.m. at Calvary St. Andrews Church, 95 Averill Ave. Tickets range from $10 (regular) to $8 (seniors)/students) to $5 for children 12 and under. They are available from the Pride Connection, Rochester Custom Leather, Silkwood Books and from Chorus members.

Tony Leuzzi, Beth Bailey and John Coakley



Rochester singer/songwriter Michael Lee

Mr. Lee's CD

By Yolanda Reyes

Michael Lee has learned a lot about healing. The singer/songwriter had to break down a lot barriers to release his debut album, "Step Into Life."

The 36-year-old performer began his music career with the local group Freedom Singers seven years ago. He was one of the charter members of the group, along with his producer and friend Jodi Cohen. Once Jodi heard him sing, she said, "I had to get him in the studio."

His life took a turn when he found out he had HIV. "It was a wake up call... (it made me) think of who I am and all the things that people take for granted," Lee said.

The realities of his life made Michael take a deeper look at his spirituality. The knowledge that he was HIV positive was bittersweet. It gave him inspiration in his music and allowed him to meditate more carefully about the meaning of life, at the same time threatening his good health.

Fate called on him again.

Michael had been working as a courier for a downtown law firm for 13 years when the company restructured. He was given a choice: change with the company structure or resign. Michael chose the latter and has been working on his music in earnest. "I had nothing left to lose," he said.

The album features Michael's singing incorporated with piano and earth sounds, creating a soft, soothing sound. When asked what inspired the feel of his music, Michael replied, "I wanted to heal my soul." But Michael hasn't been preoccupied with saving his own soul — he has taken his philosophy out to the masses for a good cause: AIDS research.

His first concert in 1994 was for children with AIDS. He followed up in 1995 with his "Step Into Life" concert, a benefit for AZT research for pregnant women with AIDS and their unborn children. Unfortunately, tragedy struck the singer shortly before the show. His landlord was stabbed in the house they shared,

Lee continued on page B3

Young poets series to present Leuzzi, Bailey and Coakley

The quarterly young poets series Millennial Muse: Poets of the New Century will present John Coakley, 25; Tony Leuzzi, 27; and Beth Bailey, 27 on Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave.

The three-person presentation will be hosted by Millennial Muse founder and curator Duane Parsons, who began the series in May 1997. Presently supported by a grant from the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester sponsored by Amnesty International of Rochester, Millennial Muse is a poetry series consisting of three-person shows held at quarterly intervals, designed to profile the most promising and accomplished young, Rochester-area poets ages 18-28.

The series has been profiled on television on *Fox 31 Investigates* (Ch. 31), the *Noon Show* (Ch. 10), *Many Voices, Many Visions* (Ch. 13), *Newsmaker* (Ch. 10) and by Arts reporter Sally Cohen on R-NEWS (Ch. 9). Participants for each installment are also presented by Bob Koch on WXXI on Simon Pontin's *Morning Show* (WXXI-FM) and on WRUR-FM's *In All Languages* with host Rick Petrie. For this installment, the WXXI segment, featuring John Coakley, will air at 7:05 a.m. on Dec. 3.

John Coakley has appeared numerous times as featured poet at most of Rochester's coffeehouse poetry series, including Java's and the Pure Kona Series at Moonbeans, but he is best known as the publisher and editor of a small local literary journal called *Workshop Divas*, which he founded in 1996. His first collection of poetry appeared that year also, and his work has also appeared in *Random* and *Six Feet Under*. He has studied at Allendale Columbia, Sarah Lawrence College and Trinity College in Dublin.

Tony Leuzzi has published two collections of poetry, *The Joey Poems* and *Dream Lessons of the Mouth* and a forthcoming collaborative work, *The Secret of Travel*, which will be published this winter by the MCC Press. His poetry and prose has appeared in a wide range of publications, including *Poetry Motel, The Experioddicist* and *The Lavender Salon Reader*. He is also the co-publisher and co-editor of *Gerbil: A Queer Culture Magazine* and writes regularly on film and books for *The Empty Closet*.

Beth Bailey's work has appeared in *Poetry Motel, Limestone, Gerbil, Sonoma Mandella, Spillway, Lake Effect Magazine* and others, and also appears in the anthology *Secrets* (Blue Heron Press). She has read for the Rochester Women's Poetry Series and the Local Writers Series at Borders Books and Music. She also led a local lesbian and gay poetry group, Alternative Imaginations, for two years.

The reading on Dec. 3 will be the second of this year's season. It will take place in the Conference Room in Cutler Hall (the old wing of the MAG) and is free and open to the public. For information call 461-0190.

Anne Fischbein

Ian McKellan and Brendan Fraser in *Gods and Monsters*, as shown on the next episode of *In the Life*.

In the Life looks at anti-gay violence

In The Life, America's gay and lesbian newsmagazine series, will air its December/January episode on Dec. 20 at 11:30 p.m. on Channel 21 (WXXI).

The lead story is the rise of violence directed against gay men and lesbians, including the murder of Matthew Shepard. The episode will also feature a "Day in the Life" with Emmy Award-winning director Paris Barclay; an examination of new research and breakthroughs in lesbian healthcare; flack over fundraising for AIDS (new ideas and continuing controversies); an interview with Sir Ian McKellen

In the Life continued on p. B3

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Hangin' with Savannah

By Savannah

I'm so glad to be back. The summer was hectic, what with touring with T-Dog, the world famous rap star and her band, and visiting my former chauffeur, the tremendously handsome Armando at his Armani-designed trailer home.

One of T-Dog's performance venues was in the New York City area, so she and I spent a wonderful evening on the Great White Way that is Broadway as we took in "100 Percent Girl," the singing/dancing review which is the sensation of the current season. The show has been described as "Tap Dogs" meets "Lord of the Dance." The women in the show with their plaid and work boots performing tightly choreographed routines would have made Busby Berkeley's heart proud. I know that mine was.

The first night that I was home, Susan Jordan, or Sparky, as she's known to her friends, called to ask if I'd like to go to the Greek bistro on Monroe Avenue for cappuccino. Of course, I gave an enthusiastic "Yes!"

We were into our second cappuccino when who should walk in but Peaches the tour guide, President of the Strolling Hostesses of State Street, and her new girl-friend, Joanie, aka Rich Bitch. After Armando moved to Genesee County, Peaches hit an emotional slump, so of course I was happy that she had found someone new, even if it was Joanie, a woman who has yet to deal with her cordiality issues.

After a round of air kisses on the cheek, we sat down to some red-blooded Girl Power. Peaches and Joanie spent the early part of the evening at the University listening to Vocal Point, the all-woman accappella, or (as they say at Albany State) Acapulco choir. It sounded as though they had a lovely time.

All of a sudden, as if from nowhere, Peaches blurts out that it was such a travesty of our great country's political system when someone like Jesse "The Body" Ventura, the former professional wrestler, can be elected Governor of Minnesota. She then asked, "What's next, will a B-grade movie actor be elected President?"

Peaches is a dear, but I swear, sometimes she's not the brightest bulb on the Christmas tree! I reminded her that the movie actor scenario happened already with Ronald Reagan. After a round of nervous laughter, Girl Power took over, and the room was full of the perfume that is friendship. We ended the evening by drinking a toast to the memory of Matthew Shepard and promised that we'd be friends forever.

My Darlings, it is so good to be back. Be well. Do make every effort to fall in love.

I must close, as a bowl of Flutie Flakes is calling me. Ta-Ta!

Upcoming continued from p. B2

and his latest film *Gods and Monsters* (about gay filmmaker James Whale, director of *Bride of Frankenstein*); and a wrap-up of Gay Games V held in Amsterdam last summer.

City Ballet brings back *The Nutcracker*

The Rochester City Ballet will once again bring to the stage its spectacular production of the holiday classic, *The Nutcracker*, at the Auditorium Center on Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m..

"It promises to be another year of reaching new heights," says Timothy Draper, artistic director of the Rochester City Ballet. Rochester's own premiere ballet company will perform to Tchaikovsky's magnificent music, including the exciting battle between a Mouse King and the Nutcracker Prince, the Waltz of the Flowers and the ethereal Snow scene. Not to be missed is the flying Christmas Spirit, unique to the Rochester City Ballet's production.

Having just completed a very successful 10th anniversary season with several sold out performances, the Rochester City Ballet looks to the next decade with excitement. Dance critic Herbert M. Simpson wrote of last year's *Nutcracker*, "I have seldom seen such exquisitely trained youngsters. Bravo! To them all." This year, the company welcomes back Alexi Zuberia, principle dancer of Venezuela's International Caracas Ballet, as the Sugar Plum's charismatic Cavalier. About Mr. Zuberia, Simpson writes, "He is a noble partner and polished dancer ... able to polish off triple cabrioles." Sixteen-year-old Kristy Boone of Fairport will be dancing the demanding role of the Sugar Plum Fairy. It will be Rochester's last time to see Miss Boone perform in the cast of our local *Nutcracker* as she will leave for New York City to join the American Ballet Theatre Studio Company upon graduating from high school this spring.

Tickets, priced at $22, $18 and $12 are available through Ticket Express, 100 East Ave. (716-222-5000). For information on discounts for groups of 20 or more, please call the Rochester City Ballet at 461-2100.

Lee continued from p. B1

and his soundman disappeared before the concert. Both men were members of the family and tensions were high. Michael felt that the performance had been "sabotaged" before he even had a chance to perform. The show went on.

After two years in the studio, he's back again with a brand new CD and a new cause. "Step Into Life — the CD Release Party" will be held at the Top of the Plaza on Dec. 30 at 7 p.m. Proceeds will be given to the Community Health Network's Patient Care Fund, a special emergency account to help people with AIDS receive medical care regardless of health insurance.

To help further the cause and support your local artist, contact Record Archive, Rochester Custom Leather, Pride Connection, or Dynamix Records for ticket information. Tickets are $10 in advance and $12 at the door.

Garth Fagan Dance to perform at NTID

Garth Fagan, whose Tony Award-winning choreography for *The Lion King* is currently lighting up Broadway, will return to the Rochester stage when his own electrifying modern dance company, Garth Fagan Dance, performs at NTID's Robert F. Panara Theatre, on the campus of RIT, Dec. 2-6.

The Rochester premier work for this year, *Two Pieces of One: Green*, is set to the music of contemporary jazz musician Tony Williams and Cristobal de Morales (1500-1530). Fagan's newest work is set for 10 dancers and comments on the diverse and opposing perspectives and lifestyles that lead to real community. This season's revival, *Telling A Story* (originally created in 1989), refers to the jazz term used to describe an artist when playing brilliantly. The work features the music of Miles Davis. It is in two sections, the first for women with the dedication to Mr. Fagan's mother and granddaughter; the second section for men with a dedication to "my father and grandson."

Also included will be *Nkanyit*, a full Company work which features the music of Betty Carter/Curtis Lundy and the National Percussion Group of Kenya, as well as the on-stage performance of saxophonist Gray Mayfield. *Nkanyit* takes its title from the Samburu people of Kenya and means "an all-encompassing respect for life, elders, and each other instilled early in childhood."

Norwood Pennewell, Natalie Rogers, and Sharon Skepple will portray the family, which is the heart of the piece. Performing this season will be Bessie Award winners Steve Humphrey, Norwood Pennewell, and Natalie Rogers, joined by Valentina Alexander, Chris Morrison, Sharon Skepple, Micha Willis, Bill Ferguson, as well as Nicolette Depass, Lutin Tanner, Vishal Shetty, Steve St.Juste and Aisha Benjamin.

The Garth Fagan Dance 1998 Season offers Rochester the unique opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at the Company in an open rehearsal scheduled for Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Fagan will be present to offer commentary on the pieces being performed and will give audiences the chance to see his world-renowned company "before the curtain rises." This rehearsal will be followed by a reception for those who attend the performance with Garth Fagan and the dancers. The curtain times for Garth Fagan Dance's Panara Theatre run are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m., and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are now on sale through Ticket Express and all Ticketmaster locations, call 222-5000 or 232-1900. Group rates are available.

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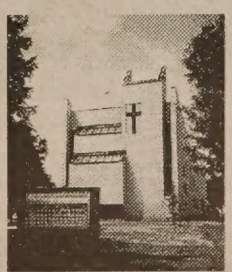

Lake Avenue Baptist Church, founded as a Memorial to Peace, is an American Baptist church with a strong commitment to ecumenical life. We belong to the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists. We are convinced Christ came to overcome the divisive barriers which human society often erects, and calls all of us to reconciliation and wholeness...We are a church where all God's people are welcome: women, men, children, youth; people of diverse races and histories; of diverse sexual orientation; and diverse abilities.

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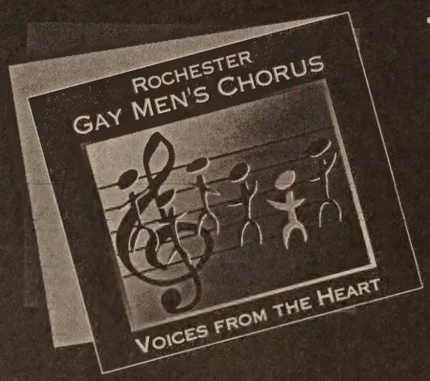

- *"Bread and Roses"* by Mimi Farina, James Oppenheimer •
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- *"A Cappella in Acapulco"* by Anders Edenroth •
- *"I am But a Small Voice"* by Roger Whittaker •
- *"Homeless"* by Paul Simon and Joseph Shabalala •
- *"Kumbaya"* arranged by Paul Sjolund •
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Growing Up
by Eric Bellmann

Is Jennifer Jones dead yet?

Anyone who has reached 50 certainly has weathered disappointments; a treacherous landlord, a beloved novel butchered as a movie, crows feet, a fickle lover. The rosy views of youth dim, optimism gets mugged. After a rough turn how does one stabilize, nurture the inner core that has sustained one thus far?

Quirky treasures console us, tiny pockets of sentimentality tucked safely out of harm's way — a favorite poet, seeing "The Wizard of Oz" for the umpteenth time, curling up in bed with ice cream to watch Lucy reruns.

Every gay soul has icons, treasured loves, and often it's a hoot when their identity is revealed. One queen loves Connie Francis, another's childhood passion was Gene Autry (this trouper is *well* into her fifties). For sport one can assess the critical moments when a particular personage entered the heart of the gay child, to remain there, ever precious. Beyond the issues of who or when or why, there remains the glorious fact: this *is* a beloved.

Some obsessions are outgrown, thank God. Roy Rogers entranced me as a child. Twenty seconds of Dale Evans consigned him to outer space. Joan Crawford held intellectual appeal: survival. As the era of great movies waned, the survival raft got crowded — lots of old dames, Stanwyck, Dietrich, Davis. Did we believe they would ever die?

I sat in the airport in Jordan and looked over the shoulder of a man reading a newspaper in Arabic. I saw a grainy photograph of Melina Mercouri. "What?" I mimed. "She is closed," he grunted and I understood he meant dead. I liked Mercouri. A late arrival to international acclaim, Mercouri represented a slew of freedoms. She was an unconventional beauty (with bad teeth!) She projected sexual exuberance and made audiences laugh, a healthy combo.

I travel often, sometimes weeks on end, and so it has become my ritual inquiry returning home, "Who died?" Half my friends don't appreciate my priorities. That's a hardship. I was blown away browsing *People* Magazine's year's end issue to read that Ida Lupino had died. Why didn't anyone tell me? Is memory so short? Didn't they remember the radiance she brought to the screen? She played the tough, working class gal. Not pretty, even when she was young, she had bad skin. Her stock in trade was fortitude, she never gave up. Lots I could work with here.

Mercouri and Lupino each had key attributes that enhanced a couple of generations' survival strategies: triumph over physical shortcomings, flat out toughness, the ability to scheme, finding the kick of sex. Those generations surrounding mine needed to get inspirations — life maps — somewhere, somehow. We went to the movies. That people have forgotten Mercouri or Lupino is a pity to be expected — too much garbage on TV.

Yeah, well everyone dies. But not me, not yet. And while I can love Judy Garland always (despite the painful parody of Liza), I find a need for someone else, someone still around. Something to be said for being alive.

It's Jennifer Jones. Alive, not young, illusive. Some convergences here.

I'll tell you how we met. When I was maybe nine the first adult movie I saw after the usual Disney diet was "Strangers When We Meet" with John Garfield. The screen crackled with energy. I saw a face: intense eyes, high cheekbones, thick dark hair — Jennifer Jones. Recently I saw the movie again and realized it was the editing and lots of gunfire that had caught me up. It's not a good movie but somehow I was snagged. I did exactly what a nine-year-old Queen would do, a child hiding out in the dark enthralled — I became a fan.

Jones's career wasn't finished when I was an adolescent. I got to see the second half, movies in color made for 20th Century Fox: "Good Morning Miss Dove," "Tender Is the Night" (she *was* Nicole Diver), "Love is a Many Splendored Thing," "The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit." There were a few black and white films, "Carrie" with Laurence Olivier and "Ruby Gentry," a steamy blockbuster. But these were mid- to late-career. The great movies were earlier. From her debut film, "The Song of Bernadette," which won her an Academy Award as Best Actress, Jennifer Jones was a star, her career a case study of big studio strategies.

Except it wasn't a studio exactly, it was David O. Selznick, her second husband. Under Selznick's guidance she made a series of technically superb films which, during my college years, I excavated from the depths of the late Show: "Madame Bovary," "The Barretts of Wimpole Street," "Since You Went Away," "Portrait of Jennie, " "Cluny Brown."

If I were to venture a critical stab, I'd say she was a better actress than commonly believed. Two films, one a cult favorite, the second a mangled mess, testify to her ambition and talent. Jones put on a blonde wig and played a bumbling comedic role in John Huston's exquisite "Beat The Devil." Comedy may have been her overlooked forte (if one remembers her blithe scamper through "Cluny Brown.") She went to Italy and starred with Montgomery Clift in a Vittorio DaSica film, initially called "Termini Station." Heavily cut, it flopped in the USA as "Indiscretions of an American Housewife". Alas, it often turns up on American TV. She wasn't reviewed as a good actress. She was mannered, limited, mocked a bit for a nervous twitch, almost a tic, a flutter of her eyelids that signaled heightened emotion. But on the screen, you looked at her, the way you watched Jane Wyman, Dorothy McGuire.

The most famous film, however, was "Duel in the Sun" with Gregory Peck. It was a big, sprawling western with fights and blood and great photography and a massive cast, a helluva movie. She churned the screen, a tempestuous vixen. She spat, she snarled, she rolled on the ground. The movie was a big hit.

Then after the string of box office hits she made a mistake. Selznick cast her in an overblown remake of "A Farewell to Arms" and it was lousy. She was too old for the part. Haven't we heard that before?

She tumbled to her death in "The Towering Inferno" in a stylish cameo as Fred Astair's wife. After one miserable horror film made in England she quit. Everyone made mistakes. Ever see Olivia DeHavilland in "Lady in a Cage"? Years later a rumor circulated she was interested in filming Jean Harris's life, the woman who'd murdered her lover, Herman Tanauer, the Scarsdale diet doctor. Nothing came of it.

As an icon Jennifer Jones fits the bill beautifully. Not as saccharine as Loretta Young (who maybe is incapable of dying) or crusty as Hepburn (who hardly needs my adoration), she is without adjective, an aloof woman of taste. Because she chose not to work as she aged, she remains in memory as she was. I don't think I've ever seen a profile of her, no pixs at home with dogs like Doris Day, no recipe sharing with Dinah Shore. She stopped making films when films became worthless. (This isn't a bad time to say that no one will shake with grief when Sally Field or Susan Sarandon croak, fine actors without question but never idols).

You see her occasionally. A tribute to Lillian Gish. This year's Oscar cast. There she was, a few feet away from Gregory Peck, her co-star in "Duel in the Sun", 40 years later. (They co-starred in Gray Flannel Suit" too) The same haircut, a stylish wedge, she's worn for 30 years. The same nervous smile.

She married one actor (Robert Walker; their child Robert Walker Jr. had a modest acting career) and two titans (David Selznick and Norton Simon). Divorced from Walker, widowed by Selznick, currently wed to one of California's wealthiest men, Jennifer Jones sits as Chairman of the Board of the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena. Whatta gal, classy to the end. I just love knowing she's there.

So at the airport snatching luggage from the carousel, I ask, is Jennifer Jones dead yet? No. Thanks for small blessings. Most likely you have never seen a Jennifer Jones film, never will, and have precious little interest in any of this. Well, this isn't about you. It's about me. This is a thread holding me to my history, my childhood in the dark, my secret life of romance and beauty, the core to which I return when faced with a treacherous landlord, a butchered book, a fickle lover. And when she dies I will be that much closer to my own grave.

Columnists

EXPAND YOUR MIND

Please Take Note

▼ The opinions of columnists, editorial writers and other contributing writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the collective attitude of the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley or the Empty Closet.

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Got a question? I've got an answer
By Sgt. Cheryl Franks, RPD

Holiday safety tips

As we approach the months of December and January we think of food, socializing and seeing a New Year with good health. I find that for many individuals, this time of year can be very difficult to deal with. Stress, depression and personal safety come to mind.

I want to take this opportunity to share with you some helpful suggestions that may ease your stress as it pertains to personal and home safety.

As you travel during the holidays, shop at favorite stores, and visit friends that you haven't seen in a long time, keep in mind that there is a small element in our community that does not feel the same way we do about life.

When you begin planning that well-deserved trip, make sure your plans include protecting your home and yourself. Check to make sure that your doors and windows are locked, including sliding doors. Consider an alarm system, and keep your yard, porch and entrances well lit; light timers work well. Inform a trusted friend of your plans but keep the information basic.

If your trip involves driving, lock your doors, roll up windows and keep valuables out of sight as you travel. Never hitchhike or pick up strangers!

When you arrive at your destination consider locking up your valuables in a safe deposit box and don't carry lots of cash or wear expensive clothing or jewelry. Always be aware of your surroundings.

While you are out shopping walk with assurance. If someone around you is acting suspiciously, change your direction and go to a public place to let him or her know you are aware of their presence. If necessary attract attention. Do not make yourself a target; stay alert and aware of your surroundings. Carry only what you need and in a secure location. Most important, trust your instincts and avoid dangerous-looking locations.

How safe can we make ourselves? Statistics show that individuals that look vulnerable often become targets. The more precautionary techniques we employ the less likely it is that we may be victimized. The old saying, "Why do something hard when you can do something easy" makes sense to a would-be attacker.

Your goal should be to return to your house the same way you left.

Without a doubt, prevention is your best protection against crime. Don't take chances with your personal safety.

I wish each and every one of you a safe and happy holiday season.

Financial planning
By William E. Glave, CPF

Year-end tax planning

As the calendar rolls on toward the busy months of November and December, you may have other things on your mind besides taxes. But, to help you pay the least amount of taxes possible, it is important to take steps before year's end. Here are a few things you can do in the closing weeks of 1998 to lessen Uncle Sam's bite on April 15.

Max Out on Workplace Retirement Savings. It's probably a little late to do much about workplace savings plans (401[k]s, SIMPLEs, etc.), but if you haven't been contributing the maximum amount, look into whether your employer's plan allows catch-up contributions at year's end. Even if it is too late to get on the bandwagon for '98, now is the time most employers require paperwork to change or establish '99 contributions. Tax-deferred retirement savings are one of the most essential planning strategies available to taxpayers. If you are not doing all you can to take advantage of it, you could be hurting yourself twice — at tax-time and at retirement.

Max Out on Individual Retirement Savings. Even if there's not much you can do to boost our '98 retirement savings at the workplace, there is still plenty of time to contribute to a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA). (You can make contributions for 1998 to your IRA up to April 15, 1999.) Be sure to look into the new Roth IRA. If you can't claim a deduction for your traditional IRA because you're covered at work and earn too much to qualify, the Roth IRA (with its higher adjusted gross income limitations) may be a good option for you. IRAs are a great tax-saver and an important component of a secure retirement in any income bracket.

Invest Wisely. There's a small window each year during which it's a decidedly bad idea to invest in mutual funds outside of a tax-qualified plan or IRA. That time is right before the fund declares a dividend or makes a capital gain distribution. If you buy before this date — often called the distribution date or the "ex div" date — part of your investment gets returned to you in the form of taxable income. Although a fund can make distributions at any

time of the year, most make distributions in November or December. If you're thinking of investing in a fund outside of a retirement plan, make a preliminary phone call to find if a distribution date has been set.

Do the Right Thing. A classic year-end tax saver involves making contributions to your favorite charity. If you itemize your deductions, a December contribution is a great way to do well by doing good. For lesbians and gay men, community-minded organizations may be a logical choice. Be sure to be tax-smart about this though — you must donate to a 5019c)(3) organization in order to get the tax deductions. Most, but not all, gay community organizations qualify. Also, if you contribute more than $250, you must get a receipt from the charity to claim the deduction.

Claim Your Partner on Your Return. Often, when there is a large discrepancy in income between partners in a gay relationship, one partner will wonder about the ability to claim the other as a dependent. The rules allowing a dependency exemption get very complicated when the person to be claimed is not a minor child; so, gay couples who think this may be an option for them should consider getting help from a tax professional. In general, however, there is a five-part test that must be met in order to qualify. Gay couples usually fail one particular test — the income test. In order to qualify as your dependent, your partner must have a gross income of less then the amount of the personal exemption — $2,700 for 1998.

Other tests that can trip up gay couples? You must live together all 12 months of the year, and your relationship can't violate "local law" — an ambiguous concept threatening couples living in states with sodomy statutes, though the premise has never been tested. There can be tax benefits if your partner had high medical expenses and you paid them; however, many times it's more work than one extra personal exemption deduction is worth. Note, too, that if your partner is claimed as your dependent, his or her own deductions may be limited. Again, this is tricky territory, and best not navigated without a knowledgeable guide.

Compare This Year to Last Year. It might be a good idea to dig out a copy of last year's tax return, and compare some of the numbers. Look at your late December pay stub, bank statements, and brokerage account statements to see if this year's numbers look like the ones you reported in '97; eyeball other parts of last year's return (capital gains, itemized deductions, etc.) to see if anything looks different for '98. If the numbers seem off, you need to begin preparing — and maybe saving — now to avoid hardship on April 15. If the differences between '97 and '98 are marked, you might want to consult with a tax professional to see if you need to make an estimated tax payment before Jan. 15 in order to avoid or minimize penalties.

Out and About

By Karen Robby

Coming out

Since I've moved back to Rochester, I'm finally spending most of my day as an "out" lesbian. In both my position at AIDS Rochester and my involvement with theatre, I can actually be the lesbian that I am.

Does that sound funny, or is it just me? Anyway, this is all very different for me. I was a middle/high school teacher in rural Vermont... need I say more? Even before that, I held positions where it was questionable whether or not being lesbian was OK. My last big effort at being open was in San Francisco, Calif. I know, you're thinking "big time tolerant community"... not everyone, by any means. My effort ended with me bringing a well known restaurant owner to court for firing me because I was a lesbian.

I believe that "coming out" is a cause for concern and celebration. I know that having the opportunity for a fresh start by moving to a new area has helped me be more out than I ever have been. My family has known for many years (it has not been an easy road) and my friends have always known. I was no longer happy playing the pronoun game with coworkers and other work related environments.

One of the biggest influences in my decision to be open since returning to Rochester was the lesson of my brother's death: "Life's too short!" When I can be myself and talk about my life with other people, then I have lifted the weight of oppression from my shoulders. That may sound dramatic, but it's true. The sense of freedom is amazing.

I have talked to many people that I work with at ARI and have become acutely aware that there is a lot of fear holding both women and men back from coming out. "Tell me something I don't know," you say? But the level of fear that I have perceived is often debilitating. What a sad situation when someone has finally admitted to themselves something that is such an important part of them, only to mix it with such underlying feelings as, "This is not a good thing," or "I may be attacked, verbally or physically," or "I may lose my credibility, my friends, my family."

If we continue to live in fear, we will continue to create fear in others. There are so many things in life that we could be fearful of. If we live our days scared, how will we accomplish anything? Even the simple tasks will be much too difficult.

I know that for some, the need to stay closeted is necessary in their lives. I don't belittle those needs. As I said, it was only recently that I changed my approach in my daily life. I just wonder how much we really get from hiding? What do we do for ourselves, our relationships, our community? If we sat down and wrote a pros and cons list on coming out, which side would weigh out? I wonder. We need to keep questioning our decisions, our actions and decide what effect it has on our self-esteem, our emotions or interactions with others.

I'm thankful for my new found "outness" and only wish everyone could experience the high that I do. I enjoy every day so differently than I have before. I'm me, period.

Since this is a double issue, I wish you all the *best* holidays ever. Enjoy and count your blessings.

Womanspirit

By Dr. Paula deChelly

The best gift of all

It seems impossible to escape the myriad of emotions that emerge as the holidays approach. Anticipating a gathering with family often triggers anxiety, producing memories of abuse, neglect, lack of respect, or expectations that we act like someone that we're not. If you have no family to be with, the holidays can quickly drop you right smack into the well of abandonment, loneliness and deep, deep sadness. Whether you have a family which is counting the days until you arrive, or nowhere at all to go, the arrival of the holidays can create tremendous pain.

Some people try to manage the dilemma by blindly jumping through the hoops of their families' expectations one more time: "It's just a few days, and then I can get back to my life." Others will try to ignore that the holidays are happening at all: "I love having a few days off from work to do whatever I want." Either way, denying our underlying feelings at holiday time disconnects us from ourselves.

Let's face it, during the holidays it is extremely challenging to hang onto the thread of your healthy self. All the hard work you may have done on yourself the rest of the year to be connected and live freely from a healthy and strong sense of self quickly begins to unravel.

As you walk into your parents' house you may seem to instantly lose all sense of who you are now. It's as though you are walking into an old, emotional hologram that includes all the wounding from your past, the familiar unconscious chaos; too thick to cut. You start to feel little. Silent. Angry. Sad. Afraid. Invisible. Worried about others' feelings. Desperately wanting to please.

Suddenly the volume on the inner dialogue BOOMS: "How dare you have a life separate from your family, surrounded by friends and people who love you just the way you are? You should be the person they want you to be just for today. It's not that big a sacrifice!"

But it is. Our souls get very weakened if we don't value our connection to a life free of the confusion of our pasts. If we give ourselves up and go back into the old mode of disconnection, we are in imminent danger of negative inner dialogue, self-criticism and loathing, and gigantic unhappiness.

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"Oh, great," you're thinking, "so how can I stay connected to myself during the holidays?"

The most important thing I know that I need to remember at the holidays is that giving does not mean giving away myself. In order to avoid doing that, it is imperative that I start out with a strong, connected sense of my healthiest self. Then I make a pact with myself that I will constantly tune into myself, so that I can monitor what it is I'm not liking and what is not OK. By listening to these signals, I have a good chance of staying in touch with what I need.

Say for example, my sister tries to ridicule and shame me for not eating meat like the rest of the family. My old way of dealing with this situation would have been to be furious with my sister. I would have made a tremendous effort to remain calm-looking and sounding. Inside I would be collapsing and feeling depressed, shut down, and hurt. I would be on the lookout for ways to slip in hurtful, passive-aggressive jabs at my sister the remainder of the visit. (And in the future too, no doubt.)

If I'm being attentive to myself, my signal might be: "I don't like it that she can't respect the way I eat." Or: "It is not okay to be pressured around what I eat."

What does this tell me about what I need? (No, I'm not going to get a new sister!) What I need to stay connected to myself is a boundary. I might simply say to her, "I don't want to explain my choices of eating today."

I know for sure that the only way I'll make it through the holidays connected to my true self is to remember to listen to these signals. I can depend on everyone having their usual expectations and demands of me. But by being mindful of my needs, I can set limits and boundaries and keep myself intact.

Then you can give yourself the most wonderful gift of all: being loving to yourself. You can depend on yourself to listen attentively and to be someone who honors and respects what you need. You can absolutely NOT allow yourself to dwell on the past or punish yourself for not being just the way others expect you to be. You can be certain that under no circumstances will you abandon yourself or give yourself away.

This strong place of connection with your loving, caring center will let you lay all the emotions surrounding your wounding to rest. Then the integrity of your soul will stay intact, joyous and whole in the present. The holidays have the potential then of creating a brand new tradition of experiences that you will want to share, look forward to and remember.

Paula deChelly, Ph.D. is a psychotherapist and educator who specializes in women's issues.

Dyke Psyche

By Esther Rothblum

Hate crimes: an interview with Jeanine Cogan

There has been a lot of recent media focus on crimes that take place based on victims' membership in oppressed groups, and the focus has intensified with the murder of Matthew Shepard.

To find out more about anti-lesbian and gay hate crimes, I phoned Jeanine Cogan, a psychologist who has conducted research and influenced federal policy on this issue.

"Hate crimes are defined legally by specific legislations," said Jeanine Cogan, "however, the commonality across the different pieces of legislation is that hate crimes are crimes that are based on real or perceived group membership. Usually that includes race, ethnicity, national origin, and religion. Sometimes it also includes sexual orientation, disability and gender. That means you were specifically chosen, sometimes out of a crowd, because you belonged to, or were thought to belong to, one of the above groups."

Along with Drs. Gregory Herek, Roy Gillis and Eric Glunt at the University of California at Davis, Jeanine worked on a long-term grant funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (in fact, the first grant ever funded by that organization about gay and lesbian issues that did not focus on AIDS). The purpose of the research study was to look at the psychological consequences of having survived an anti-gay or anti-lesbian hate crime. The research team also predicted that experiencing a hate crime would have more serious consequences than experiencing a crime that was not based on the group membership of the victim.

They surveyed more than 2,500 people in the greater Sacramento, Calif. area, including people who lived up to 100 miles away in rural areas. "When we were recruiting participants we never said, 'please take part in a study of hate crimes,' because we didn't want to bias the kind of person who would participate in the study," said Jeanine. Instead, they referred to the study as one examining a range of experiences important to lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals with a focus on health and well-being. All members of the research team were familiar members of the gay and lesbian communities that they studied.

The research team found that one in four gay and bisexual men and one in five lesbians and bisexual women had experienced a hate-motivated crime since the age of 16. Jeanine said, "We found that individuals who experienced a hate crime against their person — a physical or sexual assault, an attempted assault, a robbery — had more psychological distress after such a hate crime than people who experienced a crime of similar severity that was not aimed at them because of their sexual orientation. We also found a time factor. We know that people who experience a crime tend to be psychologically distressed. And, over time, people recover. In our study, we found that those who had experienced a crime that was not a hate crime tended to feel better after two years. But people who experienced a hate crime took much longer — five years on average — for their symptoms to dissipate. So if you're around someone who experienced a hate crime years ago, you may still see some symptoms of distress." These symptoms of distress could include depression, post-traumatic stress, anxiety and anger.

Then the research team interviewed 450 of the 2,500 respondents. They compared those who had experienced a hate crime, those who had experienced a crime unrelated to their sexual orientation, and those who had experienced no crime. "We got a lot of information about hate crimes," Jeanine said, "and those people who had experienced a hate crime often defined it as such based on tangible evidence. For example, the language that was used — being called a dyke while being assaulted. Or, the vandalism indicated a hate-motivated crime, such as having the word 'lesbian' smeared on their door with paint. Or theirs was the only car with a rainbow flag, and the only car damaged in a parking lot."

Jeanine found that listening to the respondents' stories was quite frightening to her. She counseled the other interviewers about this fear, a phenomenon that has been termed "indirect trauma" (for example, lesbians feeling victimized just by hearing of hate crimes happening to other lesbians).

She also found a difference in the way lesbians and gay men were victimized. "Some lesbians were physically assaulted by a former male partner, such as a former husband, when the lesbians came out to these men," Jeanine recalled. "We ended up calling it 'heterosexual revenge.' Some gay men, on the other hand, were lured to have sex by other, presumed 'straight' men and then assaulted by these men. And this was a pattern we found only among men."

Jeanine is now working at the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C., where she is involved in changing hate crime policy at the national level. "I've been working with Sharon Shaw Johnson, who is the director of GLOVE — Gay Men and Lesbians Opposing Violence — and they collect hate crimes data and do interventions. Both of us have noticed that it is the butch woman and the 'effeminate' man who are at particular risk for hate crimes because they defy our ideas of gender."

Jeanine's policy work focuses on broadening the definition of hate crimes. As part of a hate crimes coalition, she is attempting to amend a current civil rights statute that can be used against a perpetrator who bashes a person based on that person's group membership. She is trying to include sexual orientation, disability and gender in the definition of hate crimes. "The real hot potato is gender," she says. "The FBI is concerned that if every rape against a woman is a hate crime, they won't have the personnel to cope with the huge numbers." With a broad-based hate crimes coalition, Jeanine had many conversations with the Department of Justice about the inclusion of gender as a hate crime. In the end they supported adding gender, and President Clinton has endorsed the Hate Crime Prevention Act and has put funds into the budget for more FBI agents to work on hate crimes.

Jeanine is also thrilled to have been successful in combining research with policy. The Bureau of Justice Statistics conducts an annual survey on criminal victimization. They sample 50,000 households in the U.S. about crime experiences in the past year. Along with many other advocates, Jeanine was successful in getting this survey to include questions about hate crimes. This will allow for national statistics about hate crimes over the next years. Documenting the prevalence of an issue is an essential step for receiving an appropriate government response. So this will be an important contribution.

For more information, see Gregory Herek, Roy Gillis, Jeanine Cogan, and Eric Glunt (1997). *Hate crime victimization among lesbians, gay and bisexual adults: Prevalence, psychological correlates and methodological issues.* JOURNAL OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE, volume 12, pp. 195-215.

Esther Rothblum is Professor of Psychology at the University of Vermont and Editor of the Journal of Lesbian Studies. *She can be reached at John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT05405 and esther.rothblum@uvm.edu.*

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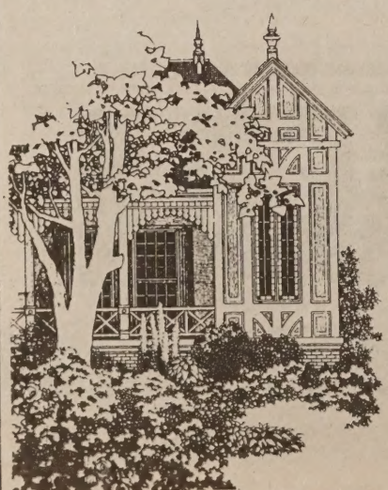

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RESOURCES FOR WOMEN

HEALTH:

Monroe County Women's Health Partnership. 111 Westfall Rd., Rochester NY 14692; (716)274-6978. Comprehensive breast cancer screening services for uninsured and underinsured women.

Elizabeth Wende Breast Clinic. 1351 Mt. Hope Ave. 442-2190. Dr. Wende Logan-Young and an all-woman staff provide mammograms.

AIDS Rochester Women's Health Outreach. HIV prevention. Contact Christine Simons, 442-2220, ext. 3026. AIDS Rochester, 1350 University Ave. ARI also has other services for HIV positive women.

Community Health Network. 758 South Ave. 244-9000. Support group for HIV positive women, "Making Connections." Contact Lyn Blackburn. Meets first and third Mondays, 9:30-11 am. Pre-interview required. "Moms Etc." support group for all female caregivers: contact Sydney Metzger. CHN has many other focus groups and services for HIV positive women and HIV negative partners.

Alternatives for Battered Women. 232-7353. Shelter, counseling. Lesbians welcome.

Victim Resource Center of Wayne County. Newark N.Y. Hotline 800-456-1172; office (315)331-1171; fax (3150331-1189.

Mary Magdalene House. Women's outreach center for HIV positive women and women at risk. 291 Lyell Ave. Open Mon-Fri. 6:30-9:30 pm 458-5728.

POLITICAL:

Women Against a Violent Environment (WAVE.) Issues of violence against women. PO Box 15650, Rochester NY 14608. 234-9709. www.mooreresults.com/WAVE

National Organization for Women (Greater Rochester NOW.) PO Box 93196; (716)461-1310. E-mail: RochNOW@aol.com Web page: www.mooreresults.com.NOW

CULTURAL:

Rochester Women's Community Chorus. 218-0366 (See Ongoing calendar).

Women's Community Performance Project. (Wild Wimmin) All-female performance group. Sharon Jeter, artistic director. 740 University Ave. 654-7709.

SPORTS:

Women's basketball. Monday, Thursday nights, 7-9 pm, Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 S. Fitzhugh St. Ramona, 244-1640.

GENERAL:

Women's Resource Center. YWCA, 175 N. Clinton Ave. 546-7740.

Slice of Life Cafe. Feminist vegetarian restaurant. 742 South Ave. 271-8010.

Silkwood Books. Women's bookstore. 633 Monroe Ave., 473-8110.

Coalition for Lesbian Visibility. Diverse group of women holding potlucks/socials in Finger Lakes area. Second Saturdays. Becky Bly, (315)539-6271.

Check our monthly and ongoing calendars for more groups and events, and call the GaySource Infoline for referrals, at 244-8640. And send us your information!

AIDS Directory

Free testing for HIV exposure is available from New York State Department of Health: call Rochester Area Regional Hotline at (716)423-8081, or 1-800-962-5063 for pay phones or calls outside Rochester. Deaf or hearing impaired people should call (716)423-8120 (TDD.) Oral testing now available. Statewide information can be obtained by calling 1-800-541-AIDS. Other organizations which provide AIDS-related services are as follows:

AIDS Rochester, Inc., 1350 University Ave., provides education, referrals to appropriate service agencies, client and family services, advocacy for people facing HIV-linked discrimination, and other services, including financial assistance and a public education speaker bureau. (716)442-2220 V/TDD (business line) or (716)442-2200 V/TDD (hotline). Free, confidential testing and counselling for women by a lesbian counselor, second Thursdays. No appointment needed; drop in between 5-9 pm. Free, confidential testing every Thursday night, 5-9 pm; no appointment necessary. Outreach van testing available on weekends.

Helping People with AIDS, Inc. (HPA) P.O. Box 1543 Rochester NY 14603-1543 is a non-profit, volunteer organization. HPA raises and distributes funds to support programs that provide services to people living with HIV and AIDS. Funding is provided to agencies located in the counties of Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Livingston, Chemung, Steuben, Wayne and Yates. Hotline (716)987-1853.

Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley peer facilitators can provide referrals to physicians and service agencies. Person on duty Mon./Thurs. 1-9:30 p.m., Fri. 1-6 p.m. Message machine other times. (716)244-8640.

HIV/STD Coordination Project of Monroe County, 111 Westfall Rd., run through Monroe County Department of Health, provides information, education and training, and maintains a resource library. (716)274-6114 (V/TTY).

Community Health Network (CHN). 758 South Ave. Aggressive early intervention medical care for all aspects of HIV/AIDS care. Clinical trials, programs for women, mental health and social work/case management. (716)244-9000.

Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS (RATFA) is a collection of agencies providing a multiplicity of resources and services to the upstate New York community. Their offices are located through the **Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency,** which also provides medical literature and newspaper clippings, as well as demographic and statistical data for use in developing health care services. (716)461-3520.

Men of Color Health Awareness Project (MOCHA). HIV prevention focus for men who have sex with men (MSM) in the minority community. Support groups, one on one peer education, safer sex workshops, referral services, buddy testing. Rochester Center for Independent Living, 758 South Ave. 442-6470.

Monroe Community College maintains an AIDS Resource Library in the Leroy V. Good Library, 1000 E. Henrietta Rd. 424-5200.

Monroe County Health Department, at 855 W. Main St., offers testing and counseling for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. (716)464-5928.

Strong Memorial Hospital provides a complete range of HIV medical care, including access to experimental treatment protocols, and HIV testing. Also provides individual and group psychotherapy. Training of health care professionals also available. Infectious Disease Clinic, (716) 275-0526. Department of Psychiatry, (716) 275-3379. AIDS Training Project, (716) 275-5693.

AIDS Remembrance Garden. Highland Park South, Rochester. Infoline: (716)234-1640. Mailing address: 935 East Ave., Rochester NY 14607.

Planned Parenthood of Rochester and Genesee Valley offers testing and information (716) 546 2595.

Threshold Youth Center provides confidential testing for young people ages 12-25. Fees on sliding scale, no one denied service. Threshold Center for Alternative Youth Services, 80 St. Paul St. 454-7530.

Finger Lakes Family Care will provide confidential or anonymous free testing in Ontario/Wayne Counties. 1-800-650-9853.

Action Front Center (Action for a Better Community.) Provides HIV prevention education and case management services. Training and technical assistance to service providers. Resource library open to public. All services free and confidential. Multicultural and bilingual staff. Rudy Rivera, program manager. 150 N. Clinton Ave. Hours 8:30-5 pm, Monday-Friday. 546-6180; fax 546-5669. Free anonymous HIV testing on walk-in basis, Thursdays 9 am- 4 pm, provided through NYSDOH at Action Front Center, 242 Andrews St. Carmen Hau, 262-4330.

Catholic Charities AIDS Services. Provides linkage with other service providers, transportation and financial assistance for housing. Monday-Friday 8:30 am- 4:40 pm. 1150 Buffalo Rd. 328-3210.

Anthony Jordan Health Center Prevention and Primary Care Program. HIV counseling and testing (free if uninsured), community outreach, Center in-reach with strong focus on education. Comprehensive HIV care and services, including medical treatment, CD4 and viral load monitoring, medications (on-site pharmacy), OB-GYN care, opthamology, dental, nutrition, mental health and substance abuse services, case management, commuity service referrals, support groups, assistance with medicaid and disability. 82 Holland St., Rochester NY 14603; 423-2879.

Evergreen Health Services. Primary care, HIV and family care, HIV testing and counseling: (716)847-0328.

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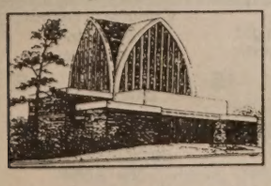

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photo: C. Amati Martin

A Special Art Exhibition Thurs. Jan. 21 5pm-9pm Complimentary Champagne & Hors d'oeuvres

Followed by LADIES NIGHT 9pm-2am

All local artists welcome Please call B.K. at 293-2848 or Cheryl at 325-7469 for more information.

DECEMBER 1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Check Us Out on the Web at: www.gayinfo.com		1 WORLD AIDS DAY Light a candle in remembrance!	2 VIP HUMP NITE! OPEN BAR 11:30pm-12:30am	3 LADIES NITE 1st & 3rd Thursdays $1.50 Drink Specials Staff: Cheryl, Karrie, Brandy, Moises & DJ Damian	4 MEN'S NITE Every Friday GoGo Dancers on the 4th & 18th	5 Join Miss Muther's Consuela & Friends for a Special Show 11:30pm-12:30am
6 Beach Party T Dance Check out the boyz and girlz in their grass skirts! Sip Tropical Drinks!	7 Rock 'n Roll w/Karrie Monday Nite Football FREE PIZZA! $1.50 Rolling Rocks 3 Big Screen TV's 7pm-2am	8 SLOW JAMS Absolut Nite $2	DJ Henry Spinning every 9 Wednesday Staff: Karrie & Randy	10 AOL Party 2nd & 4th Thursdays Tell us your handle & get your 1st Drink Free	2 for 1 11 10pm-midnight DJ Jay Dance to Club & Techno w/Juice Bar til 3am Staff: Jeff, Cheryl, Paul, Randy, Brandy, Moises, Nathan & Jay	12 DJ Len Dance to Club & Techno Juice Bar until 3am NO COVER
13 Beer Blast! 50¢ pints All Day-All Nite T Dances every Sunday 2 for 1 from 4pm-8pm	14 Happy Hours w/Jeff Noon-7pm Monday-Friday	15 Soft Music for Quiet Get Togethers	16 Happy Hours w/Jeff Noon-7pm Monday-Friday	17 LADIES NITE 1st & 3rd Thursdays $1.50 Drink Specials Staff: Cheryl, Karrie, Brandy, Moises & DJ Damian	18	19 Staff: Paul, Randy, Moises, Brandy, Nathan & Happy Hour bartender Paul Muto!
20 Pre X-mas Eve Party Bring in canned goods for AIDS Rochester & get a Free Drink!	21 Hot Drink Specials! Munchies! Buy 2 Drinks, Get 1 FREE!	22 7pm-2am with Tom as	23 Christmas Cookie Bake Off! 1st Place - $50 Bar Tab 5pm-7pm Judging at 6pm Sharp	24 CHRISTMAS EVE Join the Staff for a FREE special Eggnog Brew	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS from the Staff! Bar Opens at 6pm same great specials	26 Wear Your New Clothes Girl! $1 Shot Special (leftovers from last nite)
27 A Mix of Salsa & American Music w/DJ Sammy every Sunday	28	29 your bartender	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH! Watch the fireworks & enjoy a special send off by Miss Muther's CONSUELA Free Champagne toast & hors d'oeuvres at midnight NO COVER! OPEN UNTIL 4AM		

JANUARY 1999

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
BAR HOURS: Noon - 2am • 7 Days a Week.					1 NEW YEAR'S DAY Celebrate with us. Football in the afternoon Mens Nite in evening $1.75 Bloody Marys	2 Specialty Coffee w/Paul Noon-7pm Dance to the grinding beats w/DJ Len till 3am
3 T Dances every Sunday 2 for 1 4pm-8pm DJ Sammy	4 Rock 'n Roll w/Karrie Monday Nite Football FREE PIZZA!	5 SLOW JAMS Absolut Nite $2	6 VIP HUMP NITE! OPEN BAR 11:30pm-12:30am	7 LADIES NITE 1st & 3rd Thursdays $1.50 Drink Specials w/Cheryl, Karrie, Brandy, Moises & DJ Damian	MEN'S NITE 8 Every Friday 2 for 1 DJ Jay 10pm-midnight Well & Domestic	9 A Special Holiday Show Miss Muther's Consuela & Friends 11pm- midnight No cover
Staff: 10 Paul, Brandy, Dee, Randy	$1.50 Rolling Rocks 11 3 Big Screen TV's 7pm-2am	12 Soft Music for Quiet Get Togethers 7pm-2am	DJ Henry Spinning 13 every Wednesday Staff: Karrie & Randy	14 AOL Party 2nd & 4th Thursdays Tell us your handle & get your 1st Drink Free	15 GoGo Dancers on the 15th & 29th	16 Dance to Club & Techno DJ Len Juice Bar til 3am NO COVER
17 1st Annual Pool Tourn. $10 fee 5pm-? See Brandy for details. It's our 4th Year Anniversary Week!	18 Prime Time Music presents: Karaoke! 9pm-1am	19 Customer Appreciation Day! Mini Open Bar Shots all day and nite!	20 DJ Henry presents a "Classic Ball" 10pm-? OPEN BAR 11:30pm-12:30am	21 Ladies Nite Special "Art Exhibition" 5pm-? See above for details	22 STEVE RAMBO LIVE! 11pm-? $3 cover	23 Chi Chi La Rue LIVE! 10pm-? $3 cover
24 SUPER BOWL SUNDAY Free Pizza! Big Screen TV 31	25 FREE PIZZA!	26 SLOW JAMS Absolut Nite $2 Soft Music for Quiet Get Togethers 10pm-2am	27 VIP HUMP NITE! OPEN BAR 11:30pm-12:30am DJ Henry	28 AOL Party 2nd & 4th Thursdays Tell us your handle & get your 1st Drink Free	29 MEN'S NITE 2 for 1 DJ Jay 10pm-midnight Well & Domestic	30 Specialty Coffee w/Paul Noon-7pm Dance till 3am w/DJ Len

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muther's

The photo is of the Liberty Pole, the dictionary defines Liberty as "Freedom from Bondage, Captivity"

I'd like to thank my staff and friends - without your help and input, these past four years might not have been as successful as they were! Each one of you have your own individual style, dedication, and ideas. You have gone far and beyond the call of duty. I thank you for that! That's how magic is made! May God bless each and every one of you! Love you guys.

Glen and Jim – I'm sure at times these past four years have been overwhelming. Thanks for not giving up! Your trust, knowledge, and input shows what kind of men you really are! Your dedication to making Muther's a success shows us that Muther's is here to stay for a long, long time! Thank you both for making my dreams come true! Merry Christmas.

To our customers – without your support there would be no Muther's. You are the ones who gave us the opportunity to become who and what we are today. You've supported us through everything! Believe me, it hasn't gone unnoticed! Thank you for being part of our family! Happy Holidays to All of You!

Best Wishes – Randy Torgerson

muther's

GAY GROUPS

IT'S ALL ABOUT HAVING FUN

Meet People

■ Check this section and the ongoing calendar to find the group that's right for you! If you are already in a group, send a monthly news update to the Empty Closet, 179 Atlantic Ave., Rochester 14607, by the 15th of the month.

Car Club

Music and giving are hallmarks of the holiday spirit, and the Lambda Car Club Finger Lakes chapter's observance will incorporate both.

On Dec. 12, members will gather at Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St., to enjoy the annual holiday concert performed by the Rochester's Gay Men Chorus.

Members and guests are asked to arrive by 7:30 p.m., and to bring as a donation, a gift for clients of AIDS Rochester. Suggested items include retail or dining gift certificates, winter outerwear, blankets, towels and toiletries.

If you plan to attend or need further information, please call Rob at 225-0769 by Dec. 6.

Next Step

The Next Step Group is a six-week support group offered by the Gay Alliance to gay men, lesbians and bisexuals who want to take the next step from wherever they might be in the coming out process.

Trained facilitators help group members to identify their strengths and resources that will support them as they take their next step in coming out. The group is appropriate for individuals who are newly out, or who have been out for years but want to feel more comfortable with their identity. There is a sliding fee scale of $50 for the entire six sessions; however, no one will be turned away due to lack of funds. The group will be offered this winter. If you would like to learn more about the group, please call the Gay Alliance at 244-8640.

Couples group

Permanent Partners is an eight-session group offered by the Gay Alliance to same-sex couples who want to improve their skills at maintaining a longterm, committed relationship.

Each session addresses a specific topic, such as improving communication skills, understanding relationship dynamics, enhancing sexual intimacy, and feeling good about being in a same-sex relationship. There is a sliding scale fee from $50 to $100 per couple for the entire eight sessions. The group will be offered this winter. If you would like more information about the group, please call the Gay Alliance at 244-8640.

Dignity-Integrity

Many have asked if Dignity-Integrity is still in business after Bishop Matthew Clark's recent prohibition against diocesan priests participating in our services. Hey — we're still queer, and we're here — of course we're in business. (See D-I interview, page A6).

The D-I Advent Planning Team has put together a series of Advent liturgies to help you spiritually prepare for the Christmas celebration. We will hold these services during our usual 5 p.m. Sunday time slot during December.

Dignity-Integrity will hold a Christmas potluck dinner after services on Dec. 20. Please bring a favorite holiday dish to pass. In January, D-I will hold a pot-luck dinner after services on Jan. 17. Please bring a hot dish to share. We will provide place settings and beverages.

Beat back the winter blahs by joining us at Dignity-Integrity's annual Cabin Party on Saturday, Jan. 23. We plan to chow down comfort food, play silly board games, and toast our tootsies in front of a roaring fire. Call Mark at 482-9264 if you'd like details on this event.

Dignity-Integrity is a living faith community of gays, lesbian, bisexuals, transgender people and friends who worship openly with each other. We celebrate liturgies in the Episcopal and Catholic traditions, and welcome all to come, regardless of your religious affiliation (or lack of one).

Worship with us Sundays at 5 p.m. at St. Luke-St. Simon the Cyrene church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St. across from the Monroe County Office building. You can't miss it — it's the church with the pink steeple! After services each week, we socialize at a coffee hour or potluck dinner, where you are welcome to join us!

For general queries about Dignity-Integrity, call the D-I Info-line at 262-2170.

Lambda Kodak

The vision of the Lambda Network at Kodak (LNAK) is a supportive work environment for all individuals regardless of sexual orientation or gender expression. Lambda members, as Kodak employees, hold positions consistent with their professional capabilities, in a workplace that values all for their talents and contributions. Lambda Network contributes to Kodak's business success as well as Kodak's image as a high quality employer.

LNAK makes a difference on a personal level. The following is an anonymous experience from a network member.

"Deciding to join the Lambda Network was scary, as I wasn't out at work (and had just come out to myself and a few others only months before that). But I wanted to support a group that was working to make Kodak a better place for gay employees and our allies. Lambda is very confidential, and you control how visible you are. I've participated in workshops to help managers understand our issues by hearing our stories and talking with us — putting a human face on an issue is very effective. Lambda provides a great place to challenge yourself, improve your communication skills, and meet excellent people. If you support Lambda's mission, please consider joining."

If you are a Kodak employee, consider supporting Lambda by renewing your membership or introducing a friend to the network. If you are not currently a member, consider joining. Your support is important so that the Lambda Network can continue providing programs and networking opportunities that eliminate the fears and barriers of being gay-inclusive in words and actions.

The Sixth Annual Holiday Gala hosted by the Lambda Network at Kodak, GALAXe (Gays and Lesbians at Xerox), and GLOBAL (Gays and Lesbians of Bausch and Lomb) will be held at the Bausch and Lomb Winter Garden, One Lomb Place, on Dec. 4 at 8 p.m. Enjoy music, dancing, food, cash bar, and socializing in the elegance of the Bausch and

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Lomb Winter Garden.

Tickets are $20 each and can be purchased by calling Lambda Network's voice mail at (716)234-4388 before Nov. 28. Tickets are also available from members of GALAXe and GLOBAL.

ROMANS

Rochester Male Naturists (ROMANS) is a social organization of gay naturists who enjoy camaraderie in the nude. Our affiliations include Gay Naturists International (GNI) and International Men Enjoying Naturism (IMEN).

Membership is open to males over 18 years of age who have an interest in social nudism. We meet monthly at members' homes during the year. Some meetings have themes or activities, such as massage, gay literature, swimming, hiking, and travel to nude facilities. Meetings are planned for December through March.

For more information, call the ROMANS information line at 234-0481.

Bassically Treblemakers

Bassically Treblemakers, Rochester's gay and lesbian community band, is busy rehearsing now for the upcoming holiday season, and we invite all our friends to come hear us at any and all of our performances.

On Dec. 3, we'll play at the Park Avenue Holiday Open House, roaming the Avenue performing Christmas music. Next, we will perform for the holiday party given by the Greater Rochester Gay and Lesbian Business Forum on Dec. 10 at 6 p.m., to be held in the Gateway Poster and Framing Company on N. Goodman St. (across from Village Gate Square).

We will have our own holiday party concert at Bullwinkle's Cafe, 622 Lake Ave., on Dec. 12 at 9 p.m. Don your gay apparel and come out, and we will give a prize to the most festively dressed there. Prepare to sing along with all the carols you can remember, and share with us in celebrating the gift of music and of each other. Our final performance of 1998 will be Dec. 21, when we will play for the Gay Bowling League at Clover Lanes. We hope to "strike" a happy note while we are there.

The new season has brought back a few old familiar faces to the band. It has been a joy to see them and make music with them, and we have been pleased to welcome a few new faces as well, especially in the woodwind section, which we were hoping to build up this year. These individuals bring to the band a great amount of musical experience, and we are grateful for their tremendous talent and their willingness to share it with us. Welcome, Patty, Eric, Debbie, Tom, Tina, and Jim!

We still need other musicians, and new performers are invited to join the band at any time. You need not be a star performer — we are a community band, and if you have the spirit, you are welcome to come take part. We are still searching for someone to take the position of conductor on an ongoing basis, and we could desperately use a few percussionists, but no matter what the instrument is that you play, if you want to join the band, we want to have you. We invite you to come to one of our rehearsals or to call and get more information about the band. (Call Tim, 242-0237).

Frontrunners/ Frontwalkers

Once again, Rochester Frontrunners /Frontwalkers will be joining clubs from all over the country for a fun and festive run. Boston's Yuletide Stride, on Dec. 6, is a fundraiser for HIV-related charities, and is expected to draw over several hundred runners and walkers. Hopefully, Boston temperatures will be a little higher than average!

Dec. 4 marks the official two-year anniversary of the Rochester chapter of Frontrunners/Frontwalkers. As we did last year, we will have the "official" celebration in January when we all have some more time to plan and party! A progressive party at various members' homes is in the works now. Also, sometime around the beginning of December, we will be launching our first official newsletter, which will go to our Rochester members and Frontrunners clubs across the country. It will include information on the club (and, dare we say, a gossip column!) as well as dates of other races and social events across the country. Look in the *Empty Closet* for a thorough listing of upcoming events.

Believe it or not, we still have a hardy group of runners and walkers that meet at the George Eastman House parking lot on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. On Saturdays we also go out for coffee after everyone is finished. Please feel free to join us either day -- we'd love to see you! You can also reach us by phone at 461-4246.

Gay fathers

The Gay Fathers of Rochester have been meeting for approximately 10 years, and have been a major support group for men dealing with children, wives or ex-wives, fellow workers, teachers, neighbors and society in general.

Many gay fathers feel very alone, thinking that there is no one who will understand them and that they must be the only gay father around.

The group meets for six to eight weeks on a Tuesday night at the Third Presbyterian Church at Meigs St. and East Ave. from 7-9 p.m. The cost for all six to eight sessions is $15 or $20 total.

The group takes a break around the holidays and then starts up again for another six to eight sessions in January and then again in April, ending during the summer.

The Winter session will begin Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. Some weeks the group decides in advance to go out to eat, or go to a movie at the Dollar Movie! The group offers much support and can offer information concerning therapists, doctors, lawyers, or what ever is needed at the particular time.

For more information contact Lou or Kerry at 458-6511.

Latino Mission

Latino Mission participated in World AIDS Day (Dec. 1) by lighting a memorial candle in remembrance of those who have died of AIDS. A special remembrance was given to those in the Latino community who have died, often on silence and loneliness.

We have formed a committee to study organizational issues and enable our voices to be heard effectively. Please join us at our next meeting to help us address the function of our group in terms of the needs of the Latino community. Everyone is welcome to join us. We are no strangers to good fun and good friends. We meet the second and fourth Thursdays 7-9 p.m., at the GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave.

Empire Bears

Join the Empire Bears! Get out of the house and have some fun! Meet us at the Forum every second Saturday (Dec. 12 and Jan. 9). Attend a potluck at the GAGV on Dec. 19 at 6:30 p.m. Come to the movies every Monday evening. Call the Bearline at 234-3381 for the time and place. Join us for brunch on Jan. 10 and 31. We'll also go ice skating on the 31st.

Do you see any activities you'd enjoy yet? How about a Sabres game on Dec. 4, or the Amerks on Saturday, Dec. 20 or Friday, Jan. 29? The BEARS will attend opening night of the Rochester Gay Men's Chorus season on Friday, Dec. 11. We'll be applauding our members as they shine in the annual holiday concert.

The Empire Bears are three years old, and we'll be celebrating our third anniversary with a big all-day party for members and guests on Jan. 9. Join up and you can join in the fun. Maybe you can be Mr. Empire Bear '99! Call the Bearline at 234-3381 for more information.

Our regular meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the GAGV Community Center, 179

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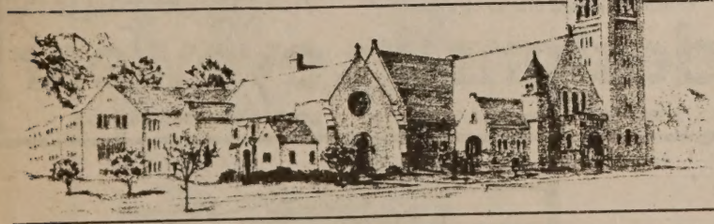

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Atlantic Ave. at 7:30 p.m. Meet, greet, and see if you'd like to be a part of a friendly bear club. Members range from early 20s to 70s, tall to short, big to small, hairy to smooth as silk! All friendly men are welcome at our events. AND a reminder to members: don't forget to vote for the new board in December!

Unbroken Threads

Come celebrate the holidays with us, and learn a new hobby to ring in the New Year!

The December meetings of Unbroken Threads will be held on Dec. 7 and Dec. 21; January meetings will be on Jan. 4 and Jan. 18. Bring a current or new project and have fun getting to know us! For further information, contact Kerry, facilitator, at (716)865-6761.

Butch-Femme Society

'Tis the season to be jolly, and what better way to celebrate than with us at our fourth event, the first annual Butch and Femme Holiday Potluck!

This event will be held on Dec. 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the GAGV Community Center, 179 Altantic Ave., corner of Elton and Atlantic. Our January meeting/potluck will be held on Jan. 15 at the same time and location.

Bring your butch or femme self, a dish to pass, and join in the festivities! For further information on the Society or these events, contact Kerry at 865-6761, or write to The Rochester BF Society, PO Box 362, Cumberland Stn., Rochester N.Y. 14603.

Hospital visiting

Hospital Volunteers -- We need great men and women willing to visit residents of Monroe Community Hospital.

We make a big difference in their lives! We meet the greatest people there and have a lot of fun. This is a great way to give back, and also to bring credibility to our gay community.

Join us on Thursday afternoons, or anytime that accommodates your schedule. For more information, call Donna Marie at (716)442-6399.

Women's Hiking

Women's Hiking is going strong after two and a half years. Mothers with their children are always welcome. Our hikes are definitely exciting and a lot of fun. Always new women joining us. We travel to various regional parks. This is a great way to meet exceptional ladies. For more information, call Donna or Chris at (716)442-6399.

PLAGAL

PLAGAL (Pro-Life Alliance for Gays and Lesbians) local chapter Vice-President is Donna Marie Kearney, P.O. Box 10035, Rochester, N.Y., 14610. Call (716) 442-6399 for more information about meeting times. The national address is: PLAGAL National, P.O. Box 33292, Washington, D.C. 20033. Telephone: (202)223-6697.

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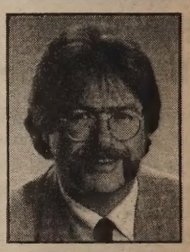

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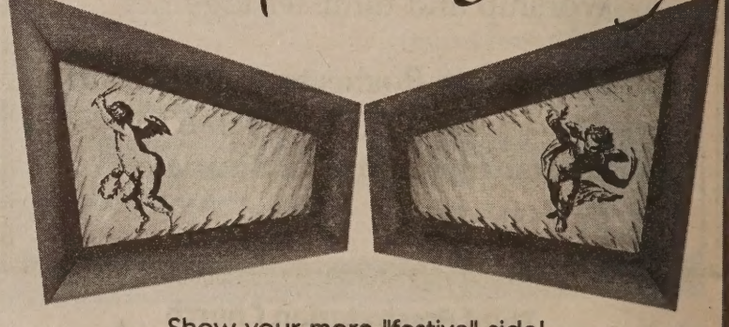

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WOMEN

Bi-curious F, 5'3" and full figured, ISO another Bi-curious F for my husband & me! **#1159**

GWF 23, petite, sensual, affectionate, & sexy; ISO GF (20-30). Piercings & high libido level a plus! **#902**

Good looking SWF, 39, ISO feminine, straight SWF for good times & possible LTR. You won't be sorry! **#1067**

Playful C, ISO BiWF (23-35) for new adventures, nights on the town, & quiet evenings at home! **#201**

BiWF 25, 5'7", 130 lbs., brown/brown, ISO same BiWF(20-30) to fulfill my boyfriend & my fantasy! **#1256**

MWF ISO SBiWF (18-27) for friendship & fun! **#1234**

African American F, 25, ISO L lady who is down for anything! If you want to get down with a little activity you can always get back to me. **#1122**

BiWF 25, 5'7", 130 lbs., brown/brown, ISO Bi-curious WF/C to fulfill my boyfriend's & my fantasy! **#749**

MWBiF 5'1", petite, medium brown/dark brown, ISO Bi/Bi-curious F's (25-35) for discreet fun times! D & d free is a must. **#624**

Bi-curious F wants to share first time experience & fantasy with you! **#843**

C ISO well endowed, disease free, WF's (18-39). Please leave a description of yourself & your phone number! **#274**

SWF ISO another SWF to fulfill my boyfriends fantasy! **#1081**

MWF ISO Bi-curious WF for friendship & fun! **#508**

Beautiful BF with a pecan tan, ISO adventurous people who are willing to take the first chance. I need a special one to fulfill my needs and I'm ready & willing to please! **#1123**

Voluptuous BiBF, ISO d & d free M's/F's to have discreet encounters with. Smoking & drinking is okay. Age, and race is unimportant. **#1272**

SWBiF 25, full figured, very aggressive, like my hands on my mate at all times; ISO someone who plays the male role and likes to have a good time for a serious relationship! **#99**

Attractive GBF, 33, physically fit, d & d free, ISO feminine B/H/WGF no games, Bi's, or C's. Must be sincere, honest, & physically fit! **#234**

MWF 5'0", 110 lbs., petite, ISO first bisexual experience. Must be d & d free, very discreet, & age is unimportant! **#650**

Young PC, ISO fulfilling fantasy with bi-curious SWF (20-early 30's). **#1622**

Very discreet F ISO discreet F (25+) for pleasures & good times! **#1330**

Bi-curious SWF, 20, ISO another F (20-25) for fantasy fulfillment. Must be d & d free. **#1134**

BF 27, 140 lbs., very attractive, from Buffalo area, ISO other attractive F's (24-34) who weigh around 120-155 lbs., for encounters, possibly more! **#1464**

Attractive GF, early 30's, slender built, blond/blue, into theatre, traveling, & the ocean; ISO GF (28-35) n/s, and d & d free. No M's or C's! **#1611**

WC 29 & 22, ISO BiF/C with BiF interested in fantasy fulfillment & genuine fun! **#1318**

Bi B American F, 26, very open minded, ISO new friends. My summer has been kind of boring; I haven't found anyone that I can hang out with & have a good time. So, call if you feel the same! **#1177**

Bi-curious SWF, 19, musician, likes dancing, camping, music festivals, & concerts; ISO Bi/Bi-curious F's for friendship most importantly. **#1542**

SBF 21, petite & pretty, ISO SBi/LF's (under 25) who are also pretty, outgoing, & intelligent! **#1524**

SGF ISO someone who is very honest & sincere to share a special life with! **#971**

BGF 27, totally gay, independent, lives in Brighton, & in school; ISO special lady friend race, age unimportant that I can chill & hang out with for LT friendship. Leave me a message! **#1473**

SBF 27, 5'0", 165 lbs., short & plump in the right places, open minded, & very loving; ISO B/H/WF (25-35) to build a friendship with & from there have an even more special relationship. **#1454**

SGBF 30, feminine, petite, enjoys having fun & laid back times; ISO feminine GBF (25+) for friendship, possibly more. **#239**

BiWF 24, 5'7", 200 lbs., blond hair & cute, ISO intelligent F for discreet, fun friendship this summer! **#1378**

B&HF 5'9", ISO F's for new friendships, maybe more! If you'd like to talk to me leave a message. **#1046**

F 27, 5'9", 240 lbs., long blond/blue, with fair skin, ISO full figured, top heavy, disease free, BiF (under 30) who can travel to Bath N.Y. **#1038**

Dominant F ISO submissives for education & training in alternative lifestyles. **#66**

BiWMF 24, 5'9", 190 lbs., long blond/hazel, ISO Bi/Bi-curious F (21-30) for discreet, first time encounter. D & d free a must! **#465**

Bi-curious, Italian, F, mid-20's, ISO another Bi-curious F for friendship & fantasy fulfillment. Must be d & d free. **#802**

SWF 23, 5'4", 150 lbs., short blond/hazel, ISO another SWF to fulfill my boyfriends fantasy. **#1000**

F 28, 5'6", caramel brown skin, brown eyes, very caring, compassionate, & new to Rochester area; ISO masculine GF's (26+) 5'7" or taller, who are caring, giving, & compassionate. **#606**

SBF ISO someone to spend quiet times with, who likes to sit & cool out; hoping that I could make someone happy & they could make me happy also! I don't mind children. **#1096**

Attractive, slender, WL, blond/blue, d & d free; ISO d & d free, feminine, L/BiF, (28-40) for intimate, discreet, times. No men please. **#370**

Attractive MWC, 31 & 32, ISO other attractive C's for erotic, fantasy, exploration! **#958**

BiHF 5'8", 150 lbs., ISO Bi/Bi-curious, sexy, F, for encounters & threesome with my boyfriend. I love to watch & be watched! **#1466**

GWPF 37, active & attractive, ISO same for intelligent conversation, stimulating adventures & potential romantic encounters. What about you? **#918**

Hot, extremely wild, WC, ISO BiF who loves to rock & roll all night and party every day! **#1091**

WC ISO F to fulfill my husbands fantasy. Not looking for Bisexual encounter. **#792**

BiF 23, 5'4", 100 lbs., long brown/hazel, ISO Bi/GF who's very caring, compassionate & honest for companionship. Must be n/s, d & d free. **#485**

F 25, 5'10", 240 lbs., outgoing, ISO F for discreet new experiences. **#687**

MEN

SWM submissive ISO dominant TV's (21-30). **#1042**

Bi-curious WM, 42, 5'11", 175 lbs., brown/brown, attached, good looking and well built; ISO BiM (20-40) for casual hot fun & good times. Call now! **#205**

GWM 29, 5'11", ISO GWM (25-35) who is fun, caring, & looking for friendship, dating, & possible LTR! **#1012**

BiWM 6'2", 190 lbs., good looking, muscular body, ISO other BiM's for hot, safe times with no strings. You should be good looking, muscular, and open to possibilities! **#981**

GWM 43, 6'2", 190 lbs., good looking, good body, & personality, into exercise, fun times, & good health; ISO good looking, open minded, B/WGM (35-45) for possible LTR! **#904**

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BiWM smooth, sexy, submissive, well equipped; ISO Bi/G M/DM's for fun times! **#805**

BiWM 35, brown/brown, muscular build, clean, discreet, & a lot of fun to be with; ISO Bi/GM's for fun times! **#629**

MBiWM CD, loves lingerie. Let me dress in anything provocative for you! **#538**

Are you Asian? WM 5'7", 142 lbs., blond/green, ISO very curious or Bi/GM for very discreet friendship & more. Students very welcome. Interested? Let's talk! **#445**

Open, honest GWM, 30, 5'10", 320 lbs., brown/brown, with husky build, outgoing, caring, & giving person; ISO GWM (21-32) for good conversation! **#258**

GWM mid-30's, ISO another for friendship, possible relationship. I prefer that you not be into drugs, the bar scene, or head games! **#1160**

WM 30, 6'0", 195 lbs., black/brown, & muscular; ISO TV's/TS's for hot times in the Rochester area one night a week on Wednesdays! **#816**

Batavia area bear, 30, 6'4", 240 lbs., masculine, & hairy; ISO same Bi/MM who is bearded & hairy for encounters at my place. Discretion assured! **#478**

GWM 40's, ISO GM's who would be interested in late night encounters. Hairy chest & well endowed is necessary. Age, race unimportant! **#175**

GWM 5'7", 150 lbs., long blond/green, ISO another GWM (28-40) who is hairy, dark/dark, Italian/Spanish/B. **#605**

Bi-curious SWM, early 50's, ISO in shape WM (under 45) with hairy chest for occasional meetings and video watching at my home. Discretion is assured! **#547**

Dominant BiWM, 32, tall, slim, muscular, & very good looking; ISO submissive BiWM who will please me and do what they're told! **#1304**

Very Bi-curious MWM, ISO Bi-curious S/M or B/WM for encounters! **#1303**

Straight WM, new to this, shy, clean, disease free, discreet, very good looking with a nice body; ISO M's that want to fondle & play with me. **#1289**

WM 23, ISO other M's. Age, race is unimportant! **#1277**

WCD 35, passive, affectionate bottom, ISO young M's (18-28) for hanging out, romance, friendship, & possible relationship. Must be d & d free! **#1244**

WM 28, disease free & clean, ISO older M's who want to please me orally and fondle my body. Leave me a message! **#1229**

Submissive BiWM, 36, ISO Bi/GM's to serve or please. Please call! **#1224**

MBiM early 40's, tall, decent shape, ISO daytime encounters with masculine M's! **#893**

WM 6'0", brown/blue, clean shaven, physically fit, & attractive; ISO M's (20-40) for nice, clean, hot times. If interested leave your number! **#730**

Good looking, Italian M, 5'9", 165 lbs., black/blue, athletic build; ISO good looking, well built, larger M who is aggressive & likes to take charge! **#145**

Attractive MBiWM, 45, ISO other Bi/GM's for early morning/early afternoon weekday, fun encounters! **#32**

BiWM 38, ISO submissive Bi/GM's for discreet encounters. Clean, d & d free; you be too! Race no barrier. **#1184**

M 5'7", 150 lbs., long blond/green, hairy body, ISO another GWM (28-38) that is Italian, hairy, & versatile! **#1175**

Handsome, unique GWM, 20, ISO same (18-25) for friendship, possible LTR! **#1025**

BiWM 40, ISO same for daytime encounters. Discretion assured! **#342**

GWM mid-30's, 6'0", 165 lbs., ISO GM's (over 60) who might need a little help around the house! **#952**

BiM sexy, passable CD, into lingerie, sexy clothes, and being treated like a lady; ISO C's with BiM's or BiMC's. **#951**

BiWM 41, 6'0", 168 lbs., ISO someone (35 or younger) with decent looks & nice body who needs enjoyment. I'm very discreet! **#786**

WM 35, good looking, blue/brown, ISO TS/TV/CD for fun & good times! **#760**

WM good looking, real nice body, horny, sexy, new to this, clean, and disease free; ISO older M's to spoil, fondle, & play with me! **#662**

Young BiWM, ISO discreet, fun times! Age & race is unimportant. **#586**

Very Bi-curious WM, 42, ISO M for fun daytime encounters! **#507**

WM ISO BiWM for body massage and foot worship! **#454**

Submissive BiCD, ISO d & d free M's of any age or race for friendship & hot encounters. No one night stands! **#249**

MBiWM 45, ISO BiC for early morning/early afternoon, weekday encounters! **#181**

BM ISO WM's (40-50) for fantasy fulfillment! **#136**

Well hung BM, 6'0", ISO other BM's! **#132**

BM hot, caring, considerate, & handsome; ISO TS/TV/CD who is passable for sensuous, discreet encounters with no strings attached. Will respond! **#1035**

Masculine GWM, 42, discreet, in good shape, works out regularly; ISO other G/BiM's (30-42) who are also in good shape & work out! **#138**

GWM 31, 6'0", 150 lbs., blond/blue, slim build, ISO A/WGM (18-35) for friendship, possible relationship! **#1197**

Bi-curious, physically fit, energetic, WPM, ISO Bi-curious WPM (45-53) who's pleasingly plump with dark features for friendship or more! **#1192**

BiWM naughty boy, 36, shy, freckles, handsome, collegiate type; ISO dominant, country M for discipline! **#1059**

WTV's 5'9", 170 lbs., & 5'9", 130 lbs., one dominant & one submissive; ISO M's (30-45) for discreet, hot, adult fun. Common guys walk the wild side! **#798**

GWM 25, 6'4", stocky build, ISO other M's out there that are commitment minded, d & d free, and n/s like myself. Race & age is not an issue! **#388**

BiM 48, 6'1", 240 lbs., ISO younger G/BiM submissive for discreet fun times! **#322**

Variety is the spice of life! MBiWM 45, ISO daytime action. **#630**

BiWM 35, brown/brown, muscular build, ISO other Bi/GM's for fun times! **#425**

MBiWM 45, ISO feminine, small framed, GM for early morning/early afternoon, weekday encounters! **#900**

GWM 42, 5'7", 175 lbs., sort of short, well built, stocky, healthy, drug & drink free; ISO discreet M of similar age or younger for good times! **#890**

If you like oil rubs & mellow times just let me know! **#877**

SWM early 30's, very attractive & passive; ISO first time fantasy with an attractive, slim, dominant, TV/TS/CD for fun & exciting times! **#542**

DBiWM 40's, 5'8", 165 lbs., well built, athletic, d & d free; ISO GM's for fun & pleasure in Canandaigua or Rochester area. **#496**

BiWM smooth, sexy, submissive, & well built; ISO S/M/BiM's for fun extracurricular activities! **#480**

SBiWM 47, d & d free, ISO smooth & feminine BiM's age unimportant, must have a good head on their shoulders, & no game players for afternoon/evening encounters! **#369**

Very good looking BiWM, 35, ISO Bi/GM's who are well endowed to serve & please. Please respond! **#312**

GBM ISO same (43+) looking for a nice time. Let's get together! **#306**

MWM 44, brown hair, nice looking, healthy, clean, & discreet; ISO M for fantasy fulfillment! **#295**

Good looking BiWTV, 39, 5'9", 170 lbs., soft body, loves to wear fishnets, etc.; ISO college boys or older M's that are interested in discreet encounters! **#109**

Good looking Bi-curious WM, mid-30's, ISO C for adult fun! **#728**

MBiWM 45, ISO TV/CD for weekday daytime fun! **#618**

See my photo on the web by fax or mail. Check out the strangest story you will ever hear. Wanna bet? **#1052**

Open minded, very Bi-curious DWM, safe, discreet, expects the same; ISO C's and select S's to explore adult fantasies! **#1017**

Mature GPM, ISO G/BiM (25-50) for friendship and intimate encounters. Race unimportant. **#895**

MBiWM 45, ISO G/BiM for mutual enjoyment & fantasy fulfillment during the early morning or early afternoon! **#655**

ISO someone to spend some time and enjoy my life with. So, take a chance & give me a call! **#544**

MBiWM 45, ISO other Bi/G feminine M for early morning/early afternoon weekday encounter! **#383**

GWM 39, d & d free, fun loving, energetic, has varied interests; ISO someone about the same age who is interested in friendship developing into a relationship down the road. ISO someone to share life with! **#280**

BiWM 27, 5'11", 195 lbs., medium build, clean, disease free, & straight acting; ISO clean, disease free, G/BiWM (18-27) slim to medium build smooth boy next door type for fantasy fulfillment! **#222**

Bi-curious MBM, early 30's, muscular and handsome; ISO disease free WM's (20-35) for discreet encounters! **#164**

BPM 25, d & d free, slender build, loves to please & have a good time; ISO a tall, husky built, older M (30-45) who's a top! **#95**

Italian M, 38, 6'0", 195 lbs., ISO TS/TV/CD's for hot times in the Rochester area. Please leave a name & number in my box and I'll get back to you! **#965**

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  3) A Voice Box greeting which allows you to ask the caller for information you want to know about them. One **FREE*** call does it all!
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- To find out about how to purchase specially priced packages, please call **464-0000**. We accept all major credit cards as well as Western Union Quick Collect and electronic checks. Even if you have 900 blocks on your long distance, you can still use our system. Charges apply to 540 and 900 numbers.
- In addition to the ads published in the paper, each advertiser records a Scan box greeting, this allows you to scan the latest m ads before the ad actually gets published. Scan box gives you a jump on the competition and beats newspaper delays!
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Information

- We will accept only ads accompanied by a name and phone number. Neither will be published, but we must be able to confirm placement. The Empty Closet is not responsible for any financial loss or physical injury that may result from any contact with an advertiser. Advertisers must use their own box number, Voice Mail or personal address/phone number.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer for the Empty Closet. The December-January issue is the last one until February, but if you just can't wait to get involved as a reporter, reviewer, word processor, photographer, mailing volunteer, etc., please call Susan at 244-9030 (office will be closed from Dec. 10 until Jan. 4). Thanks to all the word processing volunteers who responded to the November ad!

Study of lesbians and their sisters. University professor looking for volunteers to complete a survey about how lesbians and their sisters are similar or different. To participate, please contact Esther Rothblum, Box 1227, John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington VT 05405, tel. (802)656-4156, e-mail esther.rothblum@uvm.edu and leave mailing address.

Live-in companion, female, medical knowledge if possible, 30/40 age bracket, non-smoking and drinking, pets OK. All furnished; can bring your own furniture. All on one level. For more information call Sally, 244-9735.

Wanted: Interested adults to be part of a theater troupe. All facets of theater help needed (writing included). Working with HIV/AIDS material to educate through theater. Interest most important! Innformational meeting to be scheduled for January. *Must* call for details. ARI, 442-2220 x3042, Karen Robby.

Creating Couplehood, an ongoing therapy group for lesbian couples, is now forming. The goal is to support lesbian couples in their journey together toward a strong, meaningful, healthy relationship. Whether you have recently entered a relationship, have many years together, or are re-assessing the direction you want to take, this group will offer a place to deepen your understanding and grow. Call Dr. Paula deChelly at 473-3050 for further information.

HELP WANTED

Do you like to run errands, do lite household chores and yardwork? Would you like to live in a lakeside home with all amenities? You can be employed/student FT/PT. If this interests you, please call 663-0715 for more information.

MOCHA (Men of Color Health Awareness) Project. Peer educator/outreach coordinator: (f/t) Provide street outreach and prevention education to gay men of color. Must also facilitate groups for HIV positive gmoc and coordinate peer activities. Experience working with the chemically dependent a plus. Case manager: (f/t) will serve 10-15 HIV positive chemically dependent gmoc addressing overlapping needs. Positions available in Buffalo and Rochester. Send resume to MOCHA/RCIL, 758 South Ave., Rochester NY 14620. Minorities and persons with disabilities encouraged to apply. EOE.

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PERSONALS

The following prisoners are lonely and would appreciate hearing from anyone who will write:

My name is James Wiggins (incarcerated male). 29 years old, brown complexion, 5'7". 175 lbs., good looking, seeking to correspond with anyone, age, race or sex doesn't matter. James Wiggins #88BI042, Elmira Corr. Fac., PO Box 500, Elmira NY 14902-0500.

Lonely GWM prisoner, no friends or family left, seeks new friendship and correspondance toward my release. I'm 25, light brown hair, blue eyes. I'm into serious minded people, I'm loving and romantic, looking for something real. All welcome, but please, no games. Jesse J. Roton, #18861, RD 2, Box 1, Moundsville WVA 26041.

ROOMMATES / HOUSEMATES

Roommate wanted. Choice of two rooms. Furnished townhouse in Cornhill. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, patio, microwave, disposal, cable. Non-smoker preferred, must be NEAT. $450 includes all. Full size basement, $350 includes all. ASAP. Call 546-4122.

Male roommate wanted, to share nice home within a great location in W. Irondequoit. Must be non-smoker, clean and neat. Home is fully furnished with ample storage and offstreet parking. $350/month plus security deposit. Rent includes all. Call 544-2018.

Gay housemate wanted to share modern, comfortable three-bedroom townhouse in Brighton/UR/Highland Park area beginning immediately. $275/month plus one third utilities; one month deposit. Includes washer/dryer, AC, wall to wall carpet, parking, patio and swimming pool. Us: single, very independent, athletic GM professionals with active social lives. You: responsible, mature, non-smoker, prefer gay/bi male, F/T employed or student, looking for hassle-free living situation. Serious inquiries only. 271-8579 or 244-4425.

FOR RENT

Room for rent. Culver Rd. Non-smoker, must like cats. Laundry, private phone line, cable, walk-in closet. $225 plus security. 654-9713.

Large studio, wall to wall carpet, furnished, off-street parking, near expressways, on two bus routes. $350/month, security deposit. 458-6511.

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Ensure complete balanced nutrition drink. Three flavors eight oz. six-pack cans, still sealed in plastic cartons. $4.50 each. Compare at $8.97. Minimum purchase eight six-packs. 581-2282.

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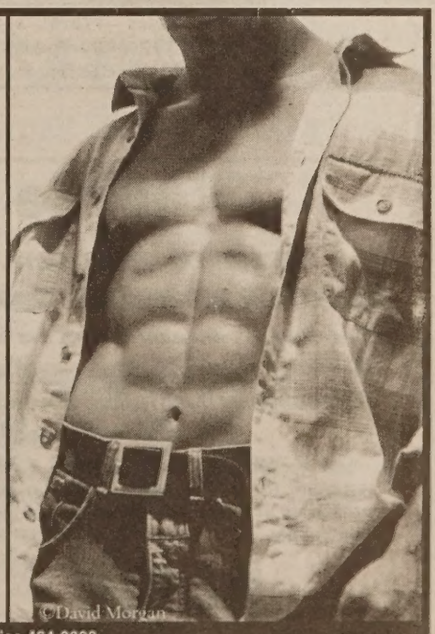

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Calendar

DON'T MISS THIS!

Dec. 5: Rochester Women's Community Chorus, *Singing in the Season.*
Dec. 11, 12: Rochester Gay Men's Chorus, *Holiday Memories.*

FOR THE MERRY MONTHS OF DEC.-JANUARY

WEDNESDAY 2

Garth Fagan Dance Theater. Robert F. Panara Theater, NTID. Through Dec. 6. Weds.-Sat. 8 pm; Sat. and Sun. 2 pm; Sun. 7:30 pm. Ticketmaster, Ticket Express.

THURSDAY 3

Millennial Muse poetry reading. Tony Leuzzi, Beth Bailey, John Coakley. Memorial Art Gallery (Conference Room, Cutler Hall), 500 University Ave. 7:30 pm. Sponsored by Millennial Muse: Poets of the New Century. 461-0190.

Bassically Treblemakers at Park Avenue Holiday Open House; catch them roaming the Avenue.

FRIDAY 4

Chanukah. Through Dec. 11.

COAP live jazz nite out. 10 pm. Andrew, 247-2788.

Metro Justice Alternative Celebration Fair. 6 - 9:30 pm, First Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Rd. S, Third World/local crafts, alternative gift items, calendars, cards, music and food. 325-2560.

Lambda Network at Kodak. Annual Holiday Gala. Also hosted by GALAXe (Xerox) and GLOB&L (Bausch & Lomb). 8 pm. $20. 234-4388.

Empire Bears at Sabres game. 234-3381.

SATURDAY 5

Metro Justice Alternative Celebration Fair. 10 am- 3 pm, First Unitarian Church, 220 S. Winton Rd. S. 325-2560.

COAP Titanic Night. 7 pm, Bill K., 787-2788.

Rochester Womens' Community Chorus. "Singing in the Season." 8 pm, Calvary St. Andrews Church, 95 Averill Ave. Tickets $10, $8 (seniors), $5 (children 12 and under). Available at The Pride Connection, Rochester Custom Leather, Silkwood Books.

SUNDAY 6

National STD Prevention Conference. Dec. 6-9, Dallas TX. For information and to register call Centers for Disease Control HIV/STD/TB Prevention Office of Communications, (404)639-8895.

THURSDAY 10

COAP at *A Christmas Carol.* 6 pm, Geva Theater. Charles, 271-3755.

GRGLBF Holiday Party. 6 pm, Gateway Poster and Framing Co., N. Goodman (across from Village Gate Square). Bassically Treblemakers will perform.

FRIDAY 11

COAP Cookie/Tree Trim Party. Dave St., 232-3012. 7:30 pm.

Rochester Gay Men's Chorus. "Holiday Memories: a concert for sharing." 8 pm, Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. Ticket Express, Ticketmaster.

SATURDAY 12

Lambda Car Club at RGMC concert. 7:30 pm. Bring a gift for AIDS Rochester clients. 225-0769.

Bassically Treblemakers Holiday Party/Concert. 9 pm, Bullwinkle's Cafe, 622 Lake Ave.

The Nutcracker. Rochester City Ballet, Auditorium Center, 2 pm and 8 pm. Tickets $22, $18, $12, Ticket Express, 222-5000. For information on discounts and group rates call RCB, 461-2100.

Rochester Gay Men's Chorus. "Holiday Memories: a concert for sharing." 8 pm, Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. Ticket Express, Ticketmaster.

MONDAY 14

COAP Mary Christmas shopping. 7 pm, Frank D., 720-9876.

WEDNESDAY 16

Getting Out. Lazy Gourmet. 7:30 pm, Kevin, 325-6745.

FRIDAY 18

Butch-Femme Society holiday potluck. 7-9 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave. 865-6761.

SATURDAY 19

COAP Christmas Party. Tom M, Dave L., 288-8758.

Empire Bears potluck. GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave., 6:30 pm. 234-3381.

SUNDAY 20

Dignity-Integrity Christmas potluck. After 5 pm service; bring a dish to pass. St. Luke/St. Simon the Cyrene Church. 262-2170.

Empire Bears at Amerks game. 234-3381.

In the Life. 11:30 pm, Channel 21 WXXI (Channel 11 cable). Gay/lesbian TV newsmagazine focuses on anti-gay violence.

MONDAY 21

Winter solstice.

THURSDAY 25

Christmas Day.

FRIDAY 26

Kwanzaa. Through Jan. 1.

MONDAY 28

Triangle Talk. *Invisible Life* by E. Lynn Harris. Discussion leader: Arlisha Massey, peer educator, MOCHA (Men of Color Health Awareness) Project. 7-8:30 pm, Borders Books & Music. Free. Co-sponsored by GAGV.

JANUARY

SATURDAY 2

COAP fondue twister night. 7 pm, Dave S., 232-3012.

SATURDAY 9

COAP Gone with the Wind

Triangle Talk

Presented by Borders and the GAGV

Invisible Life

by E. Lynn Harris

Monday, December 28, 7pm - 8:30pm

Discussion Leader: Arlisha Massey,
Peer Educator for MOCHA Project

Triangle Talk, an informal discussion series focusing on books and issues of particular interest to the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community, is held at Borders the last Monday of every month. All events are free and open to the public.

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Triangle Talk

Presented by Borders and the GAGV

THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY TRIANGLE TALK RECEPTION

Cookies, coffee,& conversation. Come and celebrate our shared success!

Monday, January 25, 6pm reception, 7pm discussion of *Homophobia: Description, Development & Dynamics of Gay Bashing* by Martin Kantor

led by William A. Kelly, CSW, Certified Sex Therapist

Triangle Talk, an informal discussion series focusing on books and issues of particular interest to the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community, is held at Borders the last Monday of every month.

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night. 7 pm, RJ, 461-2333.

Empire Bears third anniversary. All-day party. For information call 234-3381.

SUNDAY 10

Empire Bears brunch. 234-3381.

FRIDAY 15

Empty Closet deadline. Articles, ad space reservation, classified ads, letters to editor, non-camera-ready ads. For February issue. 244-9030.

MONDAY 18

COAP dinner night. 7 pm, Dave M., 265-3186.

WEDNESDAY 20

Empty Closet deadline. Photographs, camera-ready ads. 244-9030.

Night Out at Geva (also COAP at Geva). "Rough Crossing." 6:30 pm. Pre-show party for gay/lesbian community. COAP-ers call Charles, 271-3755.

FRIDAY 22

COAP video night. 7 pm, Tom, 454-3609.

GAGV Women's Social. 7:30 pm. For location call 244-8640.

SATURDAY 23

Dignity-Integrity Cabin Party. For information call Mark, 482-9264.

MONDAY 25

Triangle Talk. *Homophobia: Description, Development and Dynamics of Gay Bashing* by Martin Kantor. Discussion leader William A. Kelly, CSW. Fourth anniversary of Triangle Talk. Reception 6 pm; discussion 7 pm. Free. Co-sponsored by GAGV.

FRIDAY 29

COAP pizza video night. 7 pm. Sue, 352-6411.

Empire Bears at Amerks game. 234-3381.

Empty Closet mailing party. For February issue. Label envelopes 2-5 pm; bulk mailing 6:30-8:30 pm. People with cars who can help with distribution are also welcome! For information and to confirm date please call 244-9030 after Jan. 4.

SUNDAY 31

Empire Bears brunch. 234-3381.

The ONGOING Calendar

SUNDAY

More Light Support Group
for gay and lesbian people and friends, 12:15 pm, last Sundays. Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. 271-1608.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)
2:30 -5 pm, Friends Meeting House, 41 Westminster. Last Sunday. 234-0156

Dignity-Integrity
5 pm, St. Luke's/St. Simon Cyrene Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St. Every Sunday. 328-9758.

Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church
175 Norris Drive, Cobbs Hill. 10:30 am., 6:30 pm 271-8478.

Gay Men's Alcoholics Anonymous
St. Luke's/St. Simon Cyrene Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St. 8:30 pm, 232-6720. Second, fourth Sundays.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Friends Association (GLBFA)
U. of Rochester. Sundays, 5 pm, Morey 401. 275-9379. E-mail: glbfa@uhura.cc.rochester.edu

GAGV Lesbian Gay Bi Youth Group
Ages 14-21. Every Sunday, 2-4 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave. 244-8640.

Rainbow Amateur Radio Assoc. Finger Lakes chapter.
Business meeting/lunch. Call Bob, 442-7185.

Women's Drumming Circle
First Sundays, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave. Noon- 2 pm. Rose, 865-3906.

MONDAY

Gay and Lesbian Support Group
Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs St. First and third Mondays, 7:30-9 pm, 271-6513.

Women's basketball
Monday and Thursday nights, 7-9 pm, Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. 7-9 pm. Ramona, 244-1640.

After AIDS Bereavement Support
Second, fourth Mondays, 4-5:30 pm, AIDS Rochester, 1350 University Ave. Free. 442-2220.

Rochester Historical Bowling Society
7:15 pm, Mondays. Clover Lanes, 2750 Monroe Ave. 251-2175.

COAP
Come Out and Play. Business meeting last Mondays, 7 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave. Tom M., 454-3609.

American Baptists Concerned
Third Mondays, 7:30 pm. Webster House, 57 Ambrose St. 442-5486.

Unbroken Threads
First, third Mondays, 7-9 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave.

Triangle Talk.
LGBT book discussion series. Last Monday, Borders Books & Music, 7-8:30 pm. Co-sponsored by GAGV. Free.

GLSEN
Gay/Lesbian/Straight Educators Network.) Third Mondays, 7 p.m., GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave.

Bassically Treblemakers Band
Every Monday, 6:45-8:45 pm, School #12, South Ave. opposite Highland Hospital. 242-0237.

TUESDAY

Rochester Gay Men's Chorus
Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. 7-9:30 pm. 423-0650.

Gay Alcoholics Anonymous
8 pm, Genesee Hospital, 244 Alexander St.

Finger Lakes Gay/Lesbian Support Group
Third Tuesdays, first Fridays. Write PO Box 941, Geneva NY 14456, or call (315)536-7753, ask for Sam Edwards.

Atlantic Five 0
Gay men 50 and over. Second Tuesdays, 7:30 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave. 461-0821.

Getting Out
Support/social group. Every Tuesday, 7-9 pm. Kevin, 227-6675; Marge, 787-9254.

Men Grieving Men
First, third and fifth (if any) Tuesdays, CHN, 758 South Ave. 7-8:30 pm. 787-8351; 244-9000.

Orleans Rainbow Fellowship
Support/social group, meets third Tuesdays, 7 pm. For location call Dale, 589-9107, or e-mail DLAubac186@aol.com

WEDNESDAY

Women's Community Chorus
Rehearsals each Wednesday, 6:30-9 pm, Call for location. 218-0366.

Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley board of directors
Meeting, second Wednesdays, 7 pm, 179 Atlantic Ave. 244-8640.

Gay Alcoholics Anonymous
7 pm, Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Rd.

Support Group for Parents Who Have Lost Children
First, third Wednesdays, 11 am-12:30 pm, Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs St. Sponsored by Genesee Region Home Care. Free. 325-1880.

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers
6 pm run/walk; meet George Eastman House parking lot. 271-2709.

Bisexual Discussion group
Last Wednesdays, 7-9 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave. Men and women welcome.

Gay bingo
Third Wednesdays, 7 pm, School of the Arts. $5. Call AIDS Rochester, 442-2220.

Empire Bears
First Wednesdays, 7;30 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave.

THURSDAY

Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns
6:30 pm, first Thursday. For location call Ralph, 271-7649.

Rochester Freedom Singers
Mixed chorus. Rehearsals 7 pm, Rochester Re-Hab Center. 334-8617.

Mercy Spiritual Companion Program
Evening of reflection for those impacted by HIV/AIDS. 7-9 pm. Call 671-6070 or 473-6893.

Women's basketball
Thursdays and Mondays, 7-9 pm, Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. 7-9 pm. Ramona, 244-1640.

St. Mary's Connection
For gays and lesbians, families and friends. Third Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm, 15 St. Mary's Place (near GEVA.) 454-4573.

Greater Rochester Gay and Lesbian Business Forum
Professionals' social group. Second Thursdays, 5:30-7 pm, cash bar. Gallery Cafe, Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave. 234-8706.

Caregivers Support Group
First, third Thursdays, 5:30-7 pm, Episcopal Diocese House, 935 East Ave. 231-6808.

Latino Mission
Second and fourth Thursdays, GAGV Community Center, 179 Atlantic Ave.,7 pm. Call Jerry, 442-2220.

GLOB&L
(Gays and Lesbians of Bausch & Lomb). Meets every third Thursday in Area 67 large conference room at the Optic Center. Voice mail 338-8977.

FRIDAY

Finger Lakes Gay-Lesbian Social Group
First Fridays and third Tuesdays. Call (315) 536-5573 and ask for Sam Edwards, or write PO Box 941, Geneva NY 14456.

SATURDAY

Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon
First Unitarian Church, 220 S. Winton Rd. 7 pm.

Rochester Rams bar night Third Saturday. 8 pm-2 am, Bachelor Forum, 470 University Ave. 271-6930.

Lilac Rainbow Alliance for the Deaf
Second Saturdays, 7 pm, Gay Alliance, 179 Atlantic Ave. Write PO Box 20093, Rochester NY 14618.

Lambda Health Sciences
Sixth Saturdays, dinner/meeting. Call Steve, 271-8719.

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers
8:30 am run/walk. Meet George Eastman House parking lot.461-4246.

Coalition for Lesbian Visibility
Second Saturdays. Finger Lakes area, potlucks/socials. Call Becky Bly, (315)539-6271.

Transgender Organization
Second and fourth Saturdays, 2-5 pm, GAGV Community Center, 179 Altnatic Ave. 442-2425; http://www.samasher.com/~perette

Euchre Night
Open Arms MCC, 175 Norris Drive. First Saturdays, 6 pm. 271-8478.

Empire Bears
Foraging at the Forum. Second Saturdays, Bachelor Forum, 470 University Ave. Bearline: 234-3381.

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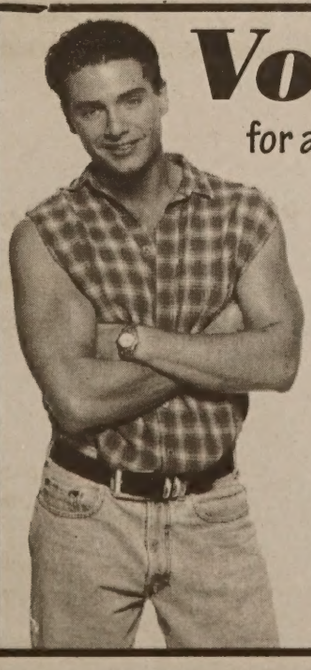

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Sweetheart Ball

dinner/dance

and Bid from the Heart Silent Auction

February 13, 1999

6:00pm Dinner and 8:00pm Dancing • Four Point Sheraton Downtown Rochester

Ticket Information

Dinner/Dance Tickets*
$50 per person for non-GAGV members (available at ticket locations)
$40 per person for GAGV members (available at the GAGV)
** A selection of vegetarian & non-vegetarian dinners are available.*

Dance Only Tickets:
$12 per person in advance
$15 per person at the door
Special student & individuals on a limited income rate is $8

Tickets go on sale at selected locations the week of January 17th.
There are a limited number of tickets available.

Other Good Stuff to Know

All Proceeds Benefit the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley

Black Tie attire not required.

DJ playing your favorite dance tunes from the 1960's through the 1990's.

There will be a photographer available to capture your special evening in pictures.

For individual & business sponsorship opportunities and ticket information, call the GAGV at 244-8640.

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